I had the pleasure of spending last spring semester (2012) in Brazil with a Fulbright CIES grant. I’ve been doing ethnographic fieldwork in the state of Bahia since 1999, and my research in 2012 was for my second major project in Brazil. This project explores the intersection of cultural heritage policy, transnational tourism and religious practice, focusing on the Afro-Catholic Sisterhood of Our Lady of the Good Death (Irmandade de Nossa Senhora da Boa Morte, or simply Boa Morte). Boa Morte is an Afro-Catholic devotional organization whose members are women of African descent involved with Candomblé, an African-derived religion practiced in Brazil. Boa Morte’s yearly festival, which takes place in the small town of Cachoeira for a week every August and celebrates the Feast of the Assumption, draws a fascinating array of groups concerned with Afro-Brazilian culture, including a large number of African American visitors from the United States. These groups are central to my ongoing research on the ways that transnational projects and practices grounded in the discourse of cultural heritage – such as afro-heritage tourism, social activism, and heritage preservation – shape cultural practice in places like Bahia.

Cachoeira is relatively remote; it is about a two hour drive into the countryside from Salvador, the coastal capital of Bahia. With a population of about 10,000 people, the town’s center is not very large – although the city has a population of about 30,000, including the outlying hamlets. As a result, it is surprising to see hundreds of foreign tourists wandering through the cobblestone streets of the city as they do every year for the main day of the festival of Boa Morte. During the processions pedestrians can barely make it through the narrow streets because they are so packed with observers following the sisters. The sisters sing “Ave Maria” as they make their way slowly through the city dressed in the white billowy dresses that are essential to traditional baiana (literally, a baiana is a “Selka Research,” cont. on page 2
From Debbie Cohn, Chair of AMST

Greetings to all!

This has been a busy year for American Studies, and I’d like to share with you some of the exciting developments in the department. We celebrate the tenuring and promotion of four of our faculty members: Marlon Bailey, Denise Cruz, Steve Selka, and Christina Snyder. This is an important step that bears witness to their many contributions to scholarship and to IU. We are also delighted that Karen Inouye was promoted to assistant professor at the beginning of the year.

We are very sorry to say good-bye to Denise, who has accepted a position at the University of Toronto, and to Bob Ivie, who is retiring.

We wish them both well as they take these next steps.

This fall, we will welcome another colleague to the faculty: Cara Cad- doo, who received her PhD from The Graduate Center (CUNY).

We admitted our second class of graduate students into the PhD program this past fall, and will have three more students joining us in August, so our cohort of graduate students is growing. This year, they organized a research colloquium that pairs faculty and student presenters, which generated interesting discussions and intellectual synergies in our community.

In these pages, you will find additional news on many individual faculty and student accomplishments. Read and enjoy, and have a wonderful summer!

Best, Debbie Cohn

Native American & Indigenous Studies College Fellowship

The 2013-2014 College of Arts & Sciences Native American & Indigenous Studies fellowship was awarded to Chris Clements who is pursuing a PhD in United States History with minors in Native American and Indigenous Studies as well as the history of the African Diaspora. The prize includes a small travel award to promote the NAIS degree offerings at a professional development conference. Chris will also take on the editorship of the Native American and Indigenous Studies newsletter.

Bahan woman, but the term often refers to Afro-Brazilian women involved with cultural practices such as selling food on street corners) garb and Candomblé practice, with an image of the Virgin Mary carried above their heads. All around them photographers take pictures, anthropologists take notes, politicians shake hands, and groups of African American tourists follow along dressed in white.

My main focus last spring was to record the sisters’ life histories and to participate in daily life in their neighborhoods and terreiros (Candomblé temples). Fortunately, many of the sisters live in the town center, where, like Bloomington, you can get everywhere in fifteen minutes. Some live in the outlying rural hamlets, however, and I had to make my way out to see them in rickety taxis with rusted-out floorboards. As part of my involvement in the local Candomblé community, I took a break from my interviews to undertake a three day limpeza (cleansing) with a local mãe de santo (Candomblé priestess), at the end of which we left offerings in the river for the orixás (gods). As those who have tried know, these offerings can be difficult to make in the streams around IU’s campus as they remain frozen most of the spring semester, something I often thought about on those warm days in the field.

“A limpeza is a spiritual cleansing that involves seclusion in a temple where the ‘client’ bathes frequently with water infused with sacred leaves.”
Elizabeth Burbach, who is a double major PhD student in Folklore and Anthropology with a minor in American Studies, was awarded a Louise McNutt Graduate Fellowship for 2013-2014 through the College of Arts and Sciences at IUB. It will help support the completion of her dissertation, “Baseball City”: Cultivating Ballplayers in Boca Chica, the Dominican Republic.

“Dominican boys pick up a bat and begin to learn by mimicking what they see. Almost every one hopes to be part of same fabled Dream Team.”

“Team Club Juan Alberto Ozoria from Boca Chica waits to play during an intercambio amistoso (friendly exchange tournament) with the Norma Diaz League in Santo Domingo. Sporting events like these are a means to socialize young people and to create community between locations around the country.”

Jordache Ellapen, PhD candidate in American Studies, is co-editor along with Jyoti Mistry, of We Remember Differently: Race, Memory, Imagination, UNISA Press, South Africa, 2012. The book made the long list for the Sunday Times Alan Paton Award.

Ellapen has been awarded the prestigious Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship (DPDF) from the Social Science Research Council for the 2013 fellowship year, under the field of Postcolonial Identities and Decolonial Struggles: Creolization and Colored Cosmopolitanism.
AMST PhD Minor Students Grab Awards

LIEBER AWARDS & DISSERTATION YEAR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Holly and Sarah both received the Lieber Associate Instructor Award, a university-wide teaching award, and were honored at the 2013 Celebration of Distinguished Teaching. Additionally, both students are recipients of the College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Year Research Fellowship for 2013-2014.

Holly Schreiber, a Combined PhD candidate in American Studies & Comparative Literature, presented her paper “Stephen Crane’s ‘An Experiment in Misery’: Experience, Interpretation, and Authority,” at the annual conference for the International Association of Literary Journalism Studies in Tampere, Finland, that was held in May of this year.

Erin Pauwels is pursuing a PhD in the Department of the History of Art and minoring in American Studies. Erin accepted the Beatrice, Benjamin & Richard Bader Short-Term Visiting Fellowship in the Visual Arts of the Theatre from Harvard University’s Houghton Library, where she will work with the Harvard Theatre Collection to conduct research for her dissertation on late nineteenth-century American stage photographer Napoleon Sarony.

Pauwels was also awarded the Henry Luce Foundation / ACLS Dissertation Fellowship in American Art and the Dissertation Research Fellowship from the Harry Ransom Center at University of Texas-Austin.

Accolades

Dr. Will E. Smith, III, Advisor for the Departments of American Studies, Philosophy, Religious Studies, and the Dhar India Studies Program was named Advisor of the Year for 2013-2014 by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Professor Steve Selka, jointly appointed in the Departments of American Studies and Religious Studies, was quoted in the New York Times (February 14, 2013), in the article A Laboratory for Revitalizing Catholicism (full article can be found at http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/15/world/americas/in-brazil-growing-threats-to-catholicism-swab.html?emc=eta1&_r=0).

“Religious practice in Brazil is often highly hybridized.”

Professor Selka is the author of Religion and the Politics of Ethnic Identity in Bahia, Brazil.
Aidé Acosta, Visiting Assistant Professor in American Studies and Latino Studies, led a seminar on migration and ethnography for the Department of International Studies at the Universidad Autónoma de Sinaloa. During her visit there, she was interviewed for the School’s newspaper and news channel (full interview can be found at http://dcs.uas.edu.mx/index.php?sec=3&op=2&tipo=i&id_noticia=3307).

Michael Martin


Michael T. Martin and David Wall “Race, Space, and Gender in Ed Bland’s Cry of Jazz,” will be published in the Quarterly Review of Film & Video (QRFV), 30.5 (December) 2013.

Michael also presented “Constituents of a Cinematic Formation and Enduring Tradition: The Los Angeles School of Filmmakers” at the symposium L.A. Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema, UCLA Film & Television Archive, November 12, 2011, Los Angeles. This paper will be published in a collection edited by Jacqueline Stewart, Allyson Nadia Field, and Jan-Christopher Horak, later this year.

Micol Seigel, Lessie Jo Frazier, and David Sartorius, co-edited, the Special Forum “Revolution and Heterotopia” in the Journal of Transnational American Studies 4(2) 2012 (click here http://www.escholarship.org/uc/item/3ts0f9xh for complete publication).

Ilana Gershon is “chuffed” about going to Stanford’s Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences next year.

Purnima Bose

“Geopolitical Fetishism & Afghanistan” appeared in Against the Current (July/August 2012). The article was translated into Spanish by Francisco Sobrino and reprinted in Herramienta: Marxist Journal of Critique and Debate (March 2013).

“Faculty Activism and the Corporatization of the University” appeared in American Quarterly (December 2012).


Shane Vogel’s essay, “Madam Zajj and US Steel: Blackness, Bioperformance, and Duke Ellington’s Calypso Theatre,” was published in Social Text (Winter 2012). He gave talks at UCLA and Rice University and was elected to the Executive Committee of the American Society for Theatre Research.

On February 25th, Alex Lichtenstein (History) conducted a workshop at Museum Africa in Johannesburg South Africa, where he presented preliminary plans for a photography exhibit he is curating, “Margaret Bourke-White and the Dawn of Apartheid in South Africa.”

Funded by New Frontiers and a Mellon Innovative Research and Teaching Grant, the exhibit will showcase the work of American photographer Margaret Bourke-White, who travelled to South Africa on assignment for Life Magazine in 1949 and 1950. At a time when Americans had begun to question their own commitment to segregation, Bourke-White’s photos provided an early glimpse of the tightening system of South African white supremacy known as “apartheid,” and its association with the exploitation of migrant labor in the gold mines. “From now on,” she said after her trip, “I just hate gold and diamonds.”

The exhibit will open at IU’s Mathers Museum of World Cultures in August 2013, and then will travel to Johannesburg and Cape Town.

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Grants and Prize Winners

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“Grants and Prizes,” cont. on page 8
**Denise Cruz:**

I am pleased to announce the publication of my new book *Transpacific Femininities: The Making of the Modern Filipina* (Duke University Press). Focusing on the early to mid-twentieth century, the book illuminates the role that a growing English-language Philippine print culture played in the emergence of new classes of transpacific women.

“Offering elegantly written, provocatively framed, and meticulously analyzed historical and cultural accounts of Filipino modern feminine formations between the early twentieth century and the years immediately after the Second World War, Denise Cruz fills a gap in the scholarly literature by boldly asserting the primacy of transnational connections.”—Martin F. Manalansan IV, author of *Global Divas: Filipino Gay Men in the Diaspora*.


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**ABOUT THE BOOK**

In this book, Jason Jackson (FOLK & AMST) and nine scholars of Yuchi (Euchee) Indian culture and history offer a revisionist and in-depth portrait of Yuchi community and society. This first interdisciplinary history of the Yuchi people corrects the historical record, which often submerges the Yuchi within the Creek Confederacy instead of acknowledging the Yuchi as a separate tribe.

**EDITORIAL REVIEW**

“The editor and contributors deserve congratulations for sustaining the nearly invisible Yuchi story line. Hope for future information rests in the questions raised by these and other scholars.”

For more information, and to order the book directly from the University of Nebraska Press, please visit: [http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/product/Yuchi-Indian-Histories-Before-the-Removal-Era.675231.aspx](http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/product/Yuchi-Indian-Histories-Before-the-Removal-Era.675231.aspx).

Jason was named the new director of IU’s Mathers Museum of World Cultures and is an Associate Professor in Folklore (Adjunct Professor in American Studies).

For the next two years, Professor Jackson will be collaborating with an AFS folklore and public policy working group on Folklore and Museum Policy and Practice. This working group is the third of its kind in an ongoing series that was approved by the American Folklore Society’s Executive Board.

**Recent Article:**

Authors’ Shelf (cont. from page 6)

Professor Stephanie C. Kane (Criminal Justice and Adjunct Professor in AMST) pens Where Rivers Meet the Sea: The Political Ecology of Water (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2012). Stephanie compares two cities and nations — Salvador, Brazil and Buenos Aires, Argentina — as she tells the stories of those who organize in the streets, petition the courts, and challenge their governments to implement and enforce existing laws designed to protect springs, lakes, harbors, and rivers.

To order: http://www.amazon.com/Where-Rivers-Meet-Sea-ebook/dp/B008RXV4KW/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1370463065&sr=8-1&keywords=Where+Rivers+Meet+the+Sea

RECENT CHAPTER

Professor Colin Johnson (Gender Studies and Adjunct in American Studies, History, and Human Biology) publishes Just Queer Folks: Gender and Sexuality in Rural America (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2013).

To order: http://www.amazon.com/Just-Queer-Folks-Sexuality-Ameri-ca/dp/1439909989/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1370462131&sr=8-1&keywords=just+queer+folks+gender+and+sexuality+in+rural+america
COMPTON-NOLL PRIZE


NEH GRANT

The Black Film Center/Archives was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities 2013 Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant. This grant will support the program, “Representing Early Black Film Artifacts as Material Evidence in Digital Contexts.”

In November 2013, project director, Brian Graney, and lead scholar Michael Martin will convene an interdisciplinary group of scholars, moving image archivists, and library professionals for a two-day conference and workshop to discuss the new methodologies and questions emerging through recent scholarship in early black-audience film studies and their broader application to other marginalized media cultures with rich histories of material practice.

CAHI GRANT

Professors Micol Seigel (American Studies and History), LaMonda Horton-Stallings (Gender Studies and Adjunct in American Studies), and Sara Friedman (Anthropology), have been selected by the College Arts & Humanities Institute to receive a Conference Grant of $4,000 to fund the “Global Moral Panics” workshop.

Future Conferences

MIDWEST POPULAR CULTURE ASSOCIATION / AMERICAN CULTURE ASSOCIATION

The 2013 MPCA/ACA Conference will be held on October 11-13, 2013, at the Marriott St. Louis Union Station Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri. For more information about the conference, please visit: http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/popc/page13191.html.

REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP:

All conference participants must be members of the Midwest Popular Culture Association/Midwest American Culture Association. Membership is for the calendar year through December 2013.

Membership fees for students w/ID, retirees and unemployed are $50 and $80 for all others. The membership fee is separate from the conference registration fee. All participants must register for the conference.

Conference registration fees for students w/ID, retirees and unemployed is $80 and $110 for all others. All fees postmarked on or before September 15, 2013, will not be assessed a late fee of $15.00.

FRAMING THE GLOBAL

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2013

IUB CAMPUS

Sponsored by

Center for the Study of Global Change, Indiana University and Indiana University Press

Global studies emerged in the 1980s as scholars, policymakers, and the general public began to take note of the increasingly transnational flows of people, ideas, and goods that have come to be identified under the rubric of globalization. Interest in global phenomena has since spread to every discipline in the social sciences and humanities, to become an intellectual touchstone in the academy and beyond. Despite increasing popular and scholarly attention to global issues, no clear consensus has emerged regarding the most fundamental definitions of terms or appropriate empirical methods for studying the global. This conference will explore emerging directions and methodologies for global research. The scholars in the Mellon Foundation-funded Framing the Global project have been addressing this question collaboratively and through their own work, which is characterized by interdisciplinarity, empirical grounding, and a concern with tracing the links between the transnational and the local in a variety of lived, political, discursive, cultural, and social domains. The conference will extend that conversation to include other scholars and practitioners with similar concerns.

If you have questions, contact us at framing@indiana.edu.
The following AMST faculty members, both core and affiliate, will be presenting at the 2013 IU Mini University:

**Vivian Halloran** (AMST/ENGL), Monday, 9:45-11:00 a.m.
“Contemporary Food Writing: From Memoirs to Restaurant Reviews”

**Christoph Irmscher** (ENGL), Thursday, 9:00-11:00 a.m.
“Walt Whitman, Celebrity Poet: The Whitman Holdings at the Lilly Library”

**Eric T. Sandweiss** (HIST), Monday, 1:00-2:15 p.m.
“Hit the Road: The American Highway in History and Legend”

**Micol Seigel** (AMST/HIST), Thursday, 2:30-3:45 p.m.
“Langston Hughes and Walt Whitman: How to Hear America Sing”

**Susan Seizer** (CMCL), Tuesday, 2:30-3:45 p.m.
“Making an Ethnographic Documentary Film: Road Comics”

**Greg Waller** (CMCL), Monday, 2:30-3:45 p.m.
“History of Film”

**New Graduate Students**

**Carrie Fudickar**: Masters of Fine Arts, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

**Jedediah Kuhn**: Masters of Arts, American Studies, California State University

**Caitlin Reynolds**: Masters of Arts, Communication Studies, Kansas State University

**Claudia Rothe**: International non-degree graduate student from Free University of Berlin (FUB), Germany

**AMST 2013 Summer Course Offerings**

**AMST-A 100 What is America?**
Class # 12673 Session: 4W1 10:20 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. / Instructor: Matthew Onstott
Class # 13229 / Session: 4W2 10:20 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. / Instructor: Jordache Ellapen

**AMST-A 200 Comparative American Identities / Topic: Fashioning Citizenship, Styles of Resistance**
Class # 15253 / Session: 4W1 12:40 – 2:50 p.m. / Instructor: Courtney Mitchel

**AMST-A 202 U.S. Arts and Media / Topic: Heresy, Transgression and American Popular Culture**
Class # 15589 / Session: 6W2 12:40 – 2:30 p.m. / Instructor: Jennifer Heusel
Deborah Cohn, who is jointly appointed in American Studies and Spanish and Portuguese, was voted to Chairship last spring. She had big shoes to fill after the departure of Matthew Guterl, the previous Chair, who accepted a position at Brown University.

She’s no stranger to the field or to the department. She previously held the position of Associate Director to American Studies for the past seven years while American Studies was still a program, and she served as Director of Graduate Studies during that time. Courses that she has taught here at IU include:

- Faulkner and Spanish American and Caribbean Authors
- Hemispheric and Transnational
- Race, Nation, and Anxieties of Empire in Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central America

In fall 2013, Deborah will be teaching AMST-G 751 Representing the Cold War in Latino and Caribbean Literature (1959-present).

Her most recent book, *The Latin American Literary Boom and U. S. Nationalism during the Cold War*, was well received. Suzanne Jill Levine writes: “Deborah Cohn’s lucid, meticulous study is a model of historical inquiry and critical acumen... unprecedented and groundbreaking.”

Deborah was promoted to Full Professor this year.