First Doctoral Candidate in American Studies!

JORDACHE ELLAPEN has moved through the American Studies graduate program and will defend his dissertation this summer. In his dissertation, “From Black to Brown: Race, Diaspora, and Post-apartheid in South Africa,” he examines “reconfiguration of race and critiques political culture in post-apartheid South Africa, through cultural politics. I coined the term Afronormativity as an analytic framework, influenced by queer of color critique, to examine the manner in which the post-apartheid state regulates race, ethnicity, class, gender, and sexuality.” As a graduate student, Jordache has a co-edited book, published articles, taught classes, and represented his work at conferences. He has received travel awards both from the College Graduate Office and the College of Arts and Humanities Institute. This year, he was chosen to receive the College Dissertation Year Research fellowship but opted to accept a postdoctoral fellowship in African and African American Studies at Washington University in St. Louis for the upcoming academic year. He defends his dissertation in July. Congratulations Jordache!

Professor Michael Martin’s Rewarding Year

Michael Martin, Brian Graney, and the BFC/A have been successful in receiving multiple funding packages this year. Michael’s project, From Cinematic Past to Fast Forward Present: D.W. Griffith’s The Birth of a Nation, was selected for funding from the New Frontiers in the Arts & Humanities—New Currents competition for a total of $18,219. The project will culminate in a two-day symposium that will take place in October of this year. Additional support for this venture comes from an Ostrom grant awarded by the College of Arts and Sciences. The Humanities Collections and Reference Resources grant of $150,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities will fund the Richard E. Norman and Race Filmmaking: Reprocessing and Digitization project. More than 20,000 items from the archives of Richard E. Norman, a pioneer in race filmmaking, will be preserved upon completion. Michael’s publications include:

♦ (with David Wall) The Poetics and Politics of Black Film, Nothing But a Man (will be published by IU Press this fall semester).


♦ An interview with the director Ava DuVernay, nominated for an Academy Award for Selma, “Conversations with Ava DuVernay—‘A Call to Action’: Organizing Principles of an Activist Cinematic Practice,” was published in Black Camera 6.1: 57-91.

Inside this issue:

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Special points of interest:

• Keeping in Touch
• Past Events
• Spring on the IUB campus
Kudos to AMST Core and Adjunct Faculty!

Marlon Bailey was awarded the Alan Bray Memorial Book Prize from the GL/Q Caucus of the Modern Language Association (MLA) for his book *Butch Queens Up in Pumps: Gender, Performance, and Ballroom Culture in Detroit.*


Aurelian Craiutu (Political Science) on sabbatical in Princeton this year, was invited to deliver “A New Light for the Old World: The Influence of the American Constitution in France in 1789,” Constitution Day Lecture, University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS, this past September.

Nick Cullather (History) a professor of history and international affairs has been appointed the first associate dean for academic affairs in the School of Global and International Studies.

Vivian Halloran was chosen by the College of Arts and Sciences to receive a Trustees Teaching Award ($2,500). In the upcoming summer and fall semesters, she will be teaching AMST-A 100 What is America? as an online course.

As a member of the Themester planning committee, Vivian organized an exhibit at the Lilly Library called *Book Bites: Texts that Influenced and Reflected How America Eats.* The exhibit and opening reception were featured in the *Herald-Times.*

In an interview with the IDS *Inside* magazine, Professor Halloran discusses job flexibility and daily responsibilities in “The Life of an Academic,” an article featured in the February 2015 issue ([http://inside.idsnews.com/article/2015/02/academia](http://inside.idsnews.com/article/2015/02/academia)).

Russ Hanson (Political Science) will serve as the Associate Dean for Institutional Planning and Development in the School of Global and International Studies. He received the IU Bloomington Distinguished Service Award for 2013-14.

Colin Johnson (Gender Studies) delivered a talk on February 15th entitled “What the Torch-Wielding Villagers Knew” at the first annual What Is and How to Do LGBT History conference in Manchester, England. He then travelled to Berlin where he presented a paper entitled “The Not-So-Grand Tour: American Sex Tourism in Europe after WWII” at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development on February 20th. On March 5th Johnson presented a short paper entitled “Sex and Self-Determination” at the “Future of the Rural West” conference in Troutdale, Oregon. The conference was sponsored by Stanford University’s Bill Lane Center for the American West.

Stephanie Kane (International Studies) received funding for her project “Flooding, Infrastructure and Climate Change.” On a CIES Fulbright ($25,00), as Resident Chair in Environmental Science at the Richardson College, University of Winnipeg, she conducted ethnographic field study of the infrastructure of river diversion as vital security, built environment and contradictory social practice in and near Winnipeg, Canada. Stephanie also received a Sustainable Course Development fellowship: “Nature and the City where she will develop a course stream composed of an IU campus service learning course with the City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department. While securing funding, she published a book chapter “Armed Robbery and Ethnographic Connection in Salvador da Bahia, Brazil.” In, *Reflexivity in Criminological Research: Experiences with the Powerless and the Powerful.*

John Nieto-Phillips (History) received a 2015-2016 Fulbright Senior Researcher Grant. He will spend the fall semester in Madrid, researching, writing and collaborating with scholars at the Universidad de Alcalá de Henares. The award will help him advance his book manuscript, “Echoes of Empire: The Spanish Language and the Global Reach of Hispanicism, 1910s-1940s.” The project explores intellectual networks that linked U.S. Latinas and Latinos to scholars in Spain and Latin America during the interwar period. For various components of that project, he also received support in the

Cont’d. on page 3
form of a Mellon Innovating International Research Teaching and Collaboration (MIIRT) award, a College of Arts & Humanities (CAHI) Faculty fellowship, and an Institute for Advanced Study (IAS) faculty research grant.

Phaedra Pezzullo (Communication and Culture) won “Global Midwest” Seed Money of $50,000 in a competition for her collaborative research project “The Midwaste: Midwestern Wasteways and Global Futures”, from the Humanities Without Walls Consortium.

Steve Selka has been awarded a semester-long College of Arts and Humanities Institute (CAHI) fellowship of $20,000 for his project “Branding Brazil: Religion and the Uses of Cultural Heritage in Bahia.”

Shane Vogel (English) received a 2015-2016 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) fellowship of $50,400 and a 2015-2016 American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) fellowship for his current research project, Stolen Time: Black Fad Performance and the Calypso Craze. He presented his work at Yale University for the Women’s Gender, & Sexuality Studies Speaker Series and at the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality at New York University. Shane published the essays “Performative Affectivity and the Letitia Ernestine Brown Divorce Case” in Signs and “Touching Ecstasy: Muñozian Theory and the Extension of the Soul” in Social Text.

Ellen Wu (History) received a 2015-2016 National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship of $50,400 for her project “Asian Americans in the Age of Affirmative Action.”


Micol Seigel is teaching a course in the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program at the Heritage Trail Correctional Facility in Plainfield, IN, this spring semester.

Pravina Shukla (Folklore & Ethnomusicology) publishes Costume: Performing Identities through Dress (IU Press, 2015). This book explores what it means for people around the world to put on special clothing and participate in festive events, historical reenactments, and theater performances, at gatherings on holidays such as Halloween, Midsummer, and Carnival.

University of Hawaii students sit together to show the ethnic differences of Hawaii’s population in 1948.
Accomplished Graduate Students

Alex Chambers, PhD student in American Studies, presented a paper, “Agriculture, History, Counter-Archive: Faulkner in the Plantation Present,” at the 2015 Dimensions of Political Ecology conference at the University of Kentucky in Lexington in February. He also taught his annual bread workshop at Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard in January. And, conducted poetry reading through the Writers Guild at Bloomington’s Lemonstone Reading Series in March at Sweet Claire’s Bakery.

Courtney Mitchel, AMST Combined PhD student, wins the Virginia L. Gunderson award of $1,000 for her paper “Surveying the ‘Empty Land’ in Selected South African Postcards.” This past fall, Courtney was selected as a Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC) scholar by the Institute for Digital Arts and Humanities (IDAH). She received $300 to work on her digital arts and humanities project "Unfeeling Humanism: Embodied and Aesthetic Subjectivities on the Margins”.

Holly Schreiber, Combined PhD student in the Departments of American Studies and Comparative Literature, successfully defended her dissertation, “Representations of Poverty in American Literary Journalism,” April 17th.


Nicky Belle, PhD Candidate in the Department of Anthropology, has been awarded the 2015-2016 Native American and Indigenous Studies fellowship of $18,000. Nicky will also take on the position of editor for the NAIS newsletter.

Jezy Gray, first-year PhD student in American Studies, wrote an article, “Wild Life” that is being anthologized in the upcoming book, A Voice Was Sounding, Vol. 5, now available via This Land Press. Jezy will teach AMST-A 200 Comparative American Identities / Topic: Pop Matters: Seeing Difference in Modern American Culture this summer in the 4w2 session.

AMST PhD Exams Successfully Completed!
Alex Chambers  Morgane Flahault
Yari Cruz  Nzingha Kendall
Jordache Ellapen  Courtney Mitchel

AMST Combined PhD Degrees Conferred
Clark Barwick (English)
Callie Clare (Folklore)
Susan Eckelmann (History)
Mark Hain (Communication Culture)
Jennifer Heusel (Communication and Culture)
Teresa Klassen (Folklore)
This semester Stone was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest and most prestigious academic honors society in the country. A banquet was held for all electees April 14th in the Presidents Hall of Franklin Hall. Additionally, he was awarded the Stephen Stein Undergraduate Research Award for his project on the destruction of the South Central Farm in L.A. This award was shared with Matthew Rust, a fellow student in AMST-A 450 Senior Seminar in American Studies. Stone has volunteered for American Studies at recruiting events and is always willing to help out when needed. Thank you, Stone! After graduation, he will work as an accounting assistant for the record label Secretly Canadian, owned by BWSCD, located in Bloomington.
Keeping in Touch

**DANILLE @ VIRGINIA TECH**

Danille Christensen recently accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Public Humanities in the Department of Religion and Culture at Virginia Tech. She will be teaching courses on material culture, folklore, and communication, with a special focus on Appalachia as a geographic and cultural region. Danille published “Simply Necessity? Agency and Aesthetics in Southern Home Canning.” Special Food Issue. *Southern Cultures* (spring): 15-42. She gave an invited lecture on the canning research “‘Your Grandmother Relied on Guess-work’: Fear, Technology, and Authoritative Knowledge in Home Canning Discourse,” Speaking of Food lecture series, Mathers Museum of World Cultures, Indiana University, October 17, 2014.

**CALLIE @ SIENA HEIGHTS**

Callie Clare just accepted a job at Siena Heights University in Adrian, Michigan as an Assistant Professor of Communications. She finished her Ph.D. and officially graduated last August, 2014, with a combined degree in American Studies and Folklore. Most recently, she has taught Popular Culture, which is what her M.A. is in, at Northern Kentucky University for the past four years. Callie says “I think the various degrees I obtained set me up nicely to take on this type of job at this type of school — a liberal arts university with a strong teaching focus.”

**KATE LEMAY—HISTORIAN @ THE SMITHSONIAN**

As of June 1, Kate will be a Historian at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. She’ll be working on the Alexander Gardner show (his battle scenes of the Civil War as well as his photographs of the West); and will also be part of the team putting together a large show on the Gilded Age. Re-writing all the wall texts of the Hall of Presidents is among the responsibilities in her new position.

Kate was a combined PhD student in American Studies and Fine Arts, and received her degree in 2011. Her dissertation was titled “Forgotten Memorials: The American Cemeteries in France from World War II.”
NEW ADJUNCT FACULTY

TERRI FRANCIS
Associate Professor
Department of Communication and Culture

RYAN POWELL
Assistant Professor
Department of Communication and Culture

WALTON MUYUMBA
Associate Professor
Department of English

STEPHANIE LI
Professor
Department of English
Upcoming Events

**Purdue Invites AMST Students**

Rayvon Fouché, Director of the American Studies Program at Purdue University, reached out to AMST, IUB in an effort to build connections between American Studies students around the Midwest. He generously offered support of two graduate students to attend Purdue’s Annual Graduate Symposium April 24th and 25th in celebration of the program’s 50th year. Alex Chambers and Jordache Ellapen will travel to Purdue to present.


“Fugitive Infrastructure Before the BP Blowout,” by Alex Chambers.

**ACADEMIC FREEDOM and the PUBLIC SPHERE**

This semester, American Studies has partnered with the History Department’s Historical Teaching and Practice workshop to present three panels that address questions of academic freedom and the engagement of academics with the public sphere. The first, “High School Teaching and the Culture Wars,” featured Anthony Arnove (co-editor, with Howard Zinn, of The People Speak), William Munn (a teacher in Marion Community Schools), and Carl Weinberg (HIST). Panelists explored Mitch Daniels’s efforts to keep Howard Zinn’s A People’s History of the United States from being taught in the state of Indiana, as well as the backlash against the recent revisions to the AP test in U.S. history. The second workshop, “Social Media and Academic Freedom,” included Jennifer Guiliano (HIST, IUPUI), Raymond Haberski (AMST and HIST, IUPUI), Jason Jackson (FOLK and Director of the Mathers Museum), Gerry Lanosga (JOUR), and Steve Sanders (Maurer). Panelists discussed both the challenges and the opportunities that social media present to academics as they become increasingly involved in public-minded scholarship. The final workshop, on “Journalism and the Academy,” will take place this Friday, April 24, from 3-4:30, in BH 006. Speakers include Nathan Ensmenger (INFO), Ilana Gershon (CMCL), Christoph Irmscher (ENGL), Elaine Monaghan (JOUR/MEDIA), and Lea Shaver (McKinney School of Law, IUPUI). Panelists will speak to the challenges and questions that arise as the public profile of academics rises, and how to face these, as well as to the increasing intersection of academic scholarship and journalism.

**“Pushing Research Boundaries”**

The Graduate Association of Recreation and Leisure Studies (GARLS) Research Symposium at the University of Waterloo will be held April 30th—May 1st. This is their 23rd annual symposium in graduate research presentations, ideas, and innovations in the fields of leisure, recreation, and tourism studies. The goals of the symposium are: to offer graduate students the opportunity to present their research and ideas in a supportive, inclusive atmosphere; to advance the state of knowledge about leisure, recreation, sport and tourism through a public forum of shared research; to facilitate scholarly communication among students and faculty interested in leisure research, and to create the opportunity for constructive criticism and debate. Dr. Raul Mowatt, Associate Professor, Recreation, Park, and Tourism Studies in the School of Public Health, IU Bloomington, is the Keynote speaker.
Past Events

GLOBAL MORAL PANICS
19th Annual Cultural Studies Symposium
Tree Suites, IMU
October 10—11, 2014

The symposium brought together scholars from diverse fields to explore “global moral panics”: issues hyped in the media and public discourse that crystallize a problem of geopolitical inequality.

The organizers have invited contributing scholars to consider a range of issues that might be conceptualized in this way, from human trafficking to sex work, tourism, piracy, epidemics, child soldiering, invasive species, climate change and more.

RACE, PLACE, and CAPITAL
An Interdisciplinary Tricontinental Symposium
@ IU BLOOMINGTON
APRIL 3—4, 2015

AMST Participants: Front Row, Center—Micol Seigel, Jed Kuhn, and Jordache Ellapen
Organized by faculty affiliated with the Critical Ethnic and Postcolonial Studies PhD minor.
Spring on the IUB Campus!