

# Cultural Studies Newsletter

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## Director's Note

Cultural Studies co-sponsored a number of conferences and lectures in the fall of 2007, including the Film Indiana Conference, Performing Community Conference, and lectures by Jennifer Fay (Michigan State University), Elizabeth Robertson (University of Colorado), and Richard Zeikowitz (CUNY). This spring 2008 Cultural Studies is pleased to co-sponsor the PRIDE Film Conference and a presentation by Philip Deloria (University of Michigan). In addition, Radhika Parameswaran and Jon Simons are orga-

nizing a Cultural Studies Brown Bag series on visual culture.

Nick Cullather, Brenda Weber and I are delighted to announce the 2008 **Cultural Studies Annual Conference**, which is on "Food/Culture." Invited speakers include Jeffrey Pilcher (University of Minnesota), our former colleague Jeff Wasserstrom (University of California), and Doris Witt (University of Iowa). The conference will take place **February 8-9, 2008**.

There is more information

on both the brown bag series and annual conference in the newsletter.

A Cultural Studies bibliography, compiled by Angela Courtney, is available on the program website. Let her know if you have additions for the bibliography or suggestions for library acquisitions ([acourtn@indiana.edu](mailto:acourtn@indiana.edu)).

Please let me know if you would like to be involved with the organizing of the 2009 conference or if you have ideas for other program initiatives.

—Purnima Bose  
([pbose@indiana.edu](mailto:pbose@indiana.edu))

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## Brantlinger-Naremore Prize Established, Awarded for 2006-2007 Academic Year

The Cultural Studies Program is pleased to announce the Brantlinger-Naremore Prize for best graduate essay in Cultural Studies, written during the academic year. The competition is open to minors in the Cultural Studies Program, who are invited to submit essays that offer a serious engagement with issues in the field, either at the theoretical level or by modeling

analyses of cultural artifacts and processes. Essays that have been written for graduate seminars, both joint-listed within the program and in other departments (provided they have some Cultural Studies content), are eligible for submission. First prize winners receive \$300 and second prize winners \$200.

The program received ten submissions for the 2006-2007 Brantlinger-Naremore Prize competition and settled on three finalists. **Shannon Smith Bennett's** (History) "'War to the Knife': Violence, Citizenship, and Gender Relations in Homestead, 1892" received the first prize for its analysis of press coverage of the strike  
(continued on page 2)



## “Food/Culture”: Cultural Studies Annual Conference, February 8-9, 2008

This year's conference keynote speaker Jeffrey Pilcher (University of Minnesota) will give his address “Planet Taco: The Global Borderlands of Mexican Cuisine” on Friday, February 8, examining Mexican food as a cultural and global borderlands.

Saturday will feature presentations from scholars in different departments at IU—English, History, Gender Studies, Comparative Literature, for example—as well as invited guests Jeff Wasserstrom (University of California) and Doris Witt (University of Iowa). Wasserstrom's paper will explore such things as the different meanings that ordering a latte or a burger can have in the U.S. as opposed to it China, or for that matter in Shanghai as opposed to Beijing. Witt's paper explores the value of conjoining cultural, legal, and food studies by situating recent popular critiques of the global, industrialized food system and

recent food safety panics in the context of acrimonious debates over the efforts of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, to establish a uniform code of international food law.

The 2008 conference will explore rituals of eating, of cuisine, manners, and presentation, which are among the chief ways of celebrating achievement and displaying refinement, and the inherent ambivalence in the relationship between eating and modernity. Food excites appetites that reveal our animal nature; the sheer variety of comestibles and recipes defies standardization or legibility; and cooking has always been a repository of memory and culture. Food thus affords an arena for investigating conflict and compromise between modernity and its many opposites: the traditional, the local, the indigenous, the sacred, and the corporeal. New forms of globalization have also had an impact on food pro-

duction and diets; some presentations will consider the ways in which global food regimes intrude on local or traditional foodways.

“Food/Culture” will also offer a forum for examining how the production, consumption, and representation of food conveys and constructs social meanings about identity. Participants will analyze the semiotic significance of eating culture, including the ways that certain foods are pathologized and written back onto bodies in cultural sites such as reality TV and popular diet books. The final panel will address the tendency for eating to work in consolidation with social practices that encourage both desire and regulation, such as sexuality, talking, and shopping. Examining the way that eating is both encouraged and regulated offers a particularly gendered modality that makes visible the cultural anxieties attached to appetite and intake as well as revulsion and elimination. ♦

## Brantlinger-Naremore Prize 2006-2007, Continued

against the Carnegie Steel Company. Shannon argues that the *Chicago Tribune's* and the *National Labor Tribune's* invocation of violence in their coverage of the strike illuminate gender relations during the period. **Tim Campbell** (English) and **Peter Xianguang Zhang** (Communication and Culture) shared the second place prize.

Tim's ““The Business of War’: William Godwin, Enmity, and Historical Representation” focuses on Goodwin's “provocative engagement with the problem of posthistory” through his reflections on the status of “enmity” in his writings. “Androgyny and (Homo/A)Sexuality in China's 2005 Super Girls,” Peter's essay, examines discourses of sexual-

ity that circulate in relation to the star constructions of Li Yuchun and Zhang Liangying, two contestants in the singing competition sponsored by Hunan TV Station.

Submissions for the 2007-2008 Brantlinger-Naremore Prize should be sent to Purnima Bose (Ballantine 442) by June 15, 2008. ♦

# Conference Schedule

## **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 4:00-5:30 pm**

### **Keynote Address**

**Journalism Auditorium, Ernie Pyle 220**

Jeffrey Pilcher, “Planet Taco: The Global Borderlands of Mexican Cuisine”

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 10 am-5 pm**

**Faculty Club, IMU (second floor)**

### **Panel One: Modern Meals**

**10:00 am-12:00 pm**

Jeff Wasserstrom, “What Does Modernity Taste Like?—Thoughts on Food and Drink in Socialist and Post-Socialist Shanghai”

Nick Cullather, “What if They Held a Famine and Nobody Starved? Johnson, Gandhi, and the Bihar Crisis of 1967”

Marti Crouch, “Ancient Food, Sacred Plants: Resisting Genetically Engineered Kalo in Modern Hawaii”

*Moderator: Richard Nash*

### **Buffet Lunch provided by Cultural Studies**

**12:00-12:45 pm**

### **Panel Two: Global Take-Out**

**12:45-2:45 pm**

Rebecca Spang, “All the World’s a Restaurant? Cuisines and the Illusion of Difference”

Doris Witt, “Food Rules for the World? Approaching the ‘Omnivore’s Dilemma’ from the Vantage Point of International Trade Law’s Solution”

Eduardo Brondizio, “Our Staple, Your Treat: Global Demand and Local Consumption of Amazonian Forest Foods”

*Moderator: Jen Fleissner*

### **Panel Three: Eating Subjects**

**3:00-5:00 pm**

Elizabeth Cafer du Plessis, “Feeding New York City: 1917 Food Boycotts and U.S. Entry into World War I”

Brenda Weber, “Hot Buttered Television Made in China: Social Contagions, Moral Contaminants, Embodied Epidemics”

Vivian Halloran, “Yum-O!: A Semiotic Analysis of Rachel Ray’s Missing Adjectives”

*Moderator: Helen Gremillion*

**Sponsored by Cultural Studies with the generous support of the Office of International Programs, History, Anthropology, and East Asian Languages and Culture**

## “Images and Public Culture”: Understanding Images Across the Humanities Brownbag Series

Across the Humanities, we study and create a variety of images using different approaches and techniques. Our objects of study and creation range from fine art images, poetic verbal images and mental images, through photography, film and video to advertisements, logos and the whole panoply of electronic imagery on computer screens and games. Images are made and analyzed in disciplines from art history and anthropology, through communications and cultural studies, journalism and jurisprudence, into theology and theatre studies. Theoretical models for understanding images have sometimes grown within disciplines and sometimes bridged across them, including semiotics, ideology

critique, psychoanalysis, phenomenology and cognitive science. Tom Mitchell has pointed out that different disciplines have tended to focus on particular types of images, limiting their conceptions of images to familiar objects of study. The purpose of this forum is to enable and encourage colleagues from various disciplines to share research and creative production, methodologies and interests, to experience creative encounters, and foster interdisciplinary work.

The Forum on “Images and Public Culture” is organized under the auspices of the Cultural Studies Program by Claude Cookman and Radhika Parameswaran (Journalism) and Jon Simons

(Communication and Culture). The Forum began its activities in the Fall semester of 2007 with a paper presented by John Lucaites (Communication and Culture) on “Boots and Hands: Photojournalism and Democracy” and a paper by Brenda Weber (Gender Studies) on “I’m me now! Subjects, Citizens, and Celebrities on Makeover TV.” The Forum will continue in Spring 2008 with a paper by Jon Simons on “Democracy’s Mirror Moments of Mis/recognition: Diana and her Public.”

For more information regarding the series, contact Radhika ([rparames@indiana.edu](mailto:rparames@indiana.edu)) or Jon ([simonsj@indiana.edu](mailto:simonsj@indiana.edu)).♦

## New Faculty Members Join Cultural Studies

**Patrick Dove** is an assistant professor of Spanish and Portuguese. His research focuses on interconnections between literature, philosophy and politics, primarily in Latin America’s Southern Cone. His first book, *The Catastrophe of Modernity: Tragedy and the Nation in Latin American Literature* (Bucknell UP, 2004), is a study of the tragic as a topos in representations of Latin American modernity by writers such as Domingo

Sarmiento, Leopoldo Lugones, Jorge Luis Borges, Juan Rulfo and César Vallejo. Currently he is working on two projects. The first considers how modern conceptualizations of “literature” are unsettled by the same processes that are currently calling into question the sovereignty of the national State. The other project is a study of the politics of memory in postdictatorship Argentina, Chile and Uruguay (1980s to present).

**Lessie Jo Frazier** is an assistant professor of Gender Studies whose work focuses on political culture in the Americas. She is particularly interested in the intersection of theories of power, subjectivity, and ideology with questions of political economy. She has published on memory, gender, nation-state formation including democratization, human rights, mental health policies, poetics, activism, and feminist ethnography. She is cur-

rently writing a book on gender, sexuality, and political culture in Chile; co-editing a volume on gender and sexuality in a global 1968; as well as finishing articles on Cold War POWs and masculinity and amnesia as a paradoxical form of agency.

**Matt Guterl** is a professor of African American and African Diaspora Studies and the director of the American Studies Program. He is a historian of race, empire, and the world. His first book, *The Color of Race in America*, explained how and why American racial classifications were transformed in the early twentieth century, with the near complete eclipse of nation-based racial identities by skin color. His second book, *American Mediterranean*, (forthcoming in 2008) considers Southern slaveholders as creoles, fearfully linked to the Caribbean in the age of emancipation. Current projects include a biography of Josephine Baker's adopted family—the “Rainbow Tribe” of the 1950s and 1960s—and a book on the visual culture of race.

**Vivian Halloran** is an assistant professor of Comparative Literature who specializes in Caribbean literature and theory. Her research interests are profoundly inter-

disciplinary and include popular culture, race and ethnicity studies, food studies, life writing, museum studies, travel literature and children's literature. Her book manuscript *Exhibiting Slavery: The Caribbean Postmodern Novel as Museum* argues that Caribbean postmodern historical novels about slavery written in Spanish, English and French function as virtual museums, simultaneously showcasing and curating a collection of ‘primary documents’ within their pages. She is at work on her next book project, *Madeline Moments: Culinary Memoirs and the Making of Identity*, in which she analyzes an emerging field in autobiography studies, the culinary memoir, in the context of both international and ethnic American writers.

**Scott O'Bryan** is an assistant professor of History and East Asian Languages & Cultures. His research interests include the history of social science, consumption and mass consumer culture, environmental history and urban history, and peace history. He has written about twentieth-century forms of statistical knowledge within political-economics and about the rise of the idea of limits in social, environmental, and cultural thought. He is now completing a book manuscript titled *A*

*Fetish for Growth: National Exceptionalism and Economic Knowledge in Post-Imperial Japan, 1945-1975*. His next major project, *Dreams of the Archipelago*, is an environmental, urban, and cultural history that narrates a variety of schemes to reshape the built environments and human geographies of late twentieth-century Japan.

**Jon Simons** is a professor of Communication and Culture whose teaching and research focuses on the connections between democratic politics and popular, mediated aesthetics. He is the author of *Foucault and the Political*. His recent work considers the debate about cultural populism and elitism, media as technologies of government, the role of emotions in political judgment, and the significance of style and rhetoric in political performance. Essays on those topics have been published in journals such as *Cultural Values*, *Strategies*, and the *Journal of Political Ideology* as well as edited volumes. A book in progress addresses arguments against the aestheticization of politics common in much critical political and cultural theory from Benjamin to Eagleton, dealing with fascism and  
(continued on page 9)

## In Press and At the Podium: Recent Activities of Cultural Studies Faculty and Students

### FACULTY

**Purnima Bose:** The Indian edition of *Organizing Empire: Individualism, Collective Agency and India* was published in December 2006 by Zubaan, a leading feminist press. Bose also received a contract from Indiana University Press for a co-edited anthology, with Laura E. Lyons, on *Cultural History and the Global Corporation*. Her article “Max Barry’s *Jennifer Government* and NationStates: Neo-liberalism and the Cultural Public Sphere” appears in the Spring 2008 issue of *Acta Scientiarum: Human and Social Sciences*.

**Pat Brantlinger** gave a week-long seminar and a couple of lectures on Cultural Studies at Yonsei U in Seoul, Korea in October. He is nearing completion of a book entitled *Victorian Literature and Postcolonial Studies* for a series, edited by Ania Loomba and David Johnston, for Edinburgh U Press.

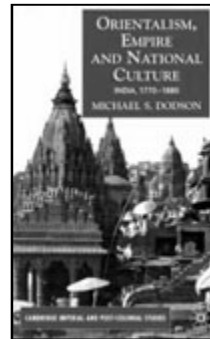
**Claudia Breger** has a book forthcoming based on a conference she co-organized in Germany last year: *Engineering Life: Narrationen*

*vom Menschen in Bio-medicin, Literatur und Kultur (Engineering Life: Narrating the Human in Biomedicine, Literature and Culture)*, edited with Irmela Krüger-Fürhoff and Tanja Nusser.

She has recently received a Humboldt Foundation research grant for the calendar year 2008. She will be in Berlin this year completing a book on “Narrative Performance” in contemporary culture.

**Linda Charnes’** book *Hamlet’s Heirs: Shakespeare and the Politics of a New Millennium* (Routledge) was published in 2007. She also gave an invited lecture at Rice U last April entitled “Extraordinary Renditions: Character and Place Reconsidered.” The essay version will appear soon in an anthology entitled *Shakespeare After 9-11*, edited by Douglas Brooks and Julia Reinhard Lupton. She is currently working on two book projects. The first, *Provoking Objects: Milton and the Libertines*, examines the links between cynicism and fundamentalism in the late seventeenth century. The second, *Shakespeare and the Interactive Stage*,

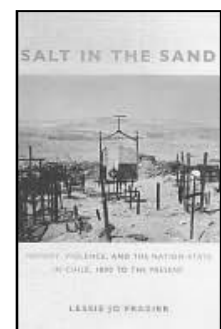
explores the establishment, and deconstruction, of the concept of the “fourth wall,” and its relationship to politics as a theatrical mode.



**Michael Dodson** published his book *Orientalism, Empire, and National Culture: India 1770-1880* (Palgrave Mac-

millan, 2007) and contributed an essay to a special issue of the journal *Modern Intellectual History* (April 2007) devoted to exploring ‘an intellectual history for India.’ He is now working on an edited collection of essays and photographs on the architecture and cultural life of the north Indian city of Varanasi.

**Lessie Jo Frazier’s** book *Salt in the Sand: Memory, Violence, and the Nation-State in Chile, 1890-Present* was published by Duke U Press (as part of the *Politics, History, and Culture Series*) in July 2007; the book was



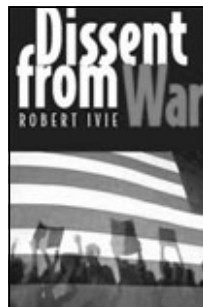
awarded the Lewis Hanke Prize (Conference on Latin American History).

She also presented several papers in 2007: “Transdisciplinarity and Transnational Feminist Theory” at the Roundtable on Transdisciplinarity at the Cultural Studies Association Meetings in April; “Chilean New Men: Sexual Ideologies and Practices” at the Political Imaginaries in Latin America: Reverberations within the Contemporary Left conference at IU in May 2007 (she was also conference co-organizer); and “More than Mojo, Sex and ‘68” at the New World Coming: The Sixties and the Shaping of a Global Consciousness conference in Ontario in June.

**Vivian Halloran** presented a paper titled “Revolving Door: Immigration and the Emergence of Interamerican Literature” at IU’s Globalizing American Studies conference in April 2007. She also presented “Illin’: Exoticism and the Medical Narratives of Oliver Sacks” at the American Comparative Association Meeting in Princeton, NJ in April 2006. Her article “Health Professionals, Truth and Testimony: Witnessing in Human Rights-Themed Entertainment” ap-

peared in the *M/MLA Journal* in the fall of 2007.

**Robert Ivie**’s most recent book, *Dissent from War* (Kumarian Press, 2007), considers cultural resources and communication tactics for resisting dehumanizing discourses of redemptive violence. He edited a special issue of *Presidential Studies Quarterly* (December 2007) on the theme of “Shadows of Democracy in Presidential Rhetoric,” to which he contributed an essay, coauthored with Oscar Giner, entitled “Hunting the Devil: Democracy’s Rhetorical Impulse to War.” His work on peace-building communication was presented this September in Slovenia at the European Institute for Communication and Culture. His paper “Finessing the Demonology of War: Toward a Practical Aesthetic of Humanising Dissent” is published in *Javnost—The Public*.



**De Witt Kilgore** gave a talk at the American Studies Association in Philadelphia this past fall titled “A Touch of Grey: Black Cartooning and the Problem of Universality,” presented as part of a

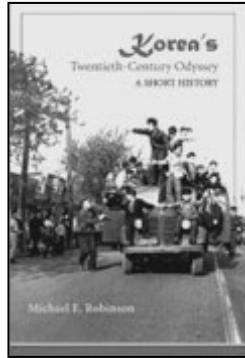
panel on “Comics, Comedy and Drawing Race.”

**Radhika Parameswaran**’s article “The Other Sides of Globalization: Communication, Culture, and Postcolonial Critique” is forthcoming in the inaugural issue of the new media and communication journal *Communication, Culture, and Critique*. She had two research paper presentations and three panel presentations at the annual conventions of the International Communication Association in San Francisco, May 2007. She served as a faculty expert for the media studies division of the National Communication Association’s doctoral honors seminar in July 2007 at the University of Colorado, Boulder. And she was invited to serve on the editorial board of the journal *Image of the Journalist in Popular Culture* in fall 2007.

**Phaedra C. Pezzullo** will be co-presenting a paper with Louisiana State University Performance Studies Professor Michael Bowman called “What’s so ‘dark’ about ‘dark tourism’?: Reflections on Death, Media, and Commodification in Contemporary Tourism” at the 7th International Conference of the Association of Cultural Studies in Kingston, Ja-

maica, in July 2008.

**Michael Robinson** published a book in May 2007, *Korea's Twentieth-Century Odyssey: A Short History*, (U of Hawaii Press), which argues that the origins of Korean nationalism and modernization are located in the



twenty years preceding the fall of the traditional state to Japanese colonialism in 1910. Robinson inserts cultural analysis into a topic traditionally dominated by International Relations and Strategic Studies approaches to the material.

**Ranu Samantrai** gave a paper entitled “An Aesthetic of Home: Country and City in Black Britain” at the UNC Institute of Arts and Humanities’ Paul Gilroy Conference in January 2008.

**Michiko Suzuki**’s recent publications include “Consumption and Leisure: An Intratextual Reading of Hisao Ju-ran’s *Kyarako san*” in *Proceedings for the Association for Japanese Literary Studies*, vol. 7, and

“Writing Same-Sex Love: Sexology and Literary Representation in Yoshiya Nobuko’s Early Fiction,” appearing in *The Journal of Asian Studies*, August 2006.

Suzuki is also director of an upcoming workshop: “Monsters and the Monstrous in Modern Japanese History and Culture,” to be held March 21-22, 2008. This is the second part of a two-year workshop (last year featured monsters in premodern Japanese history and culture), funded by Toshiba International Foundation. It is a closed workshop discussion with a small group of participants, but if Cultural Studies faculty wish to join the audience, please contact her.

**Richard Wilk** is on the editorial boards of *The Journal of Consumer Culture*, the *Journal of Material Culture*, the *Journal of Consumer Policy*, and a new journal titled *New Global Studies*. He is also co-editor of a new book series from Palgrave/Macmillan called *Consumption and Public Life*.

This past year’s invited lectures included “Trade, Food and Masculinity in the Atlantic World” at Åbo Akademi University in Finland; “The Edge of

Agency: Routines, Habits and Volition” for a seminar on Routines and Rhythms of Daily Life at Lund University; “The History of Consumption” for a doctoral seminar on Consumer Culture Theory at Bilkent University Business School; “Salt Pork and Rum in Belize: The Historical Connections between Global Capitalism and Modern Masculinity” at Vassar College; and the keynote speech “Encountering Cultural Difference in Tourism: Does Crossing Boundaries Make them Disappear, or Does it Make Them Stronger?” at the Nordic Symposium on Tourism and Hospitality Research, Helsingborg. He also presented a paper titled “Extending Chains to show Impact at a Distance: Food Trade in the Atlantic World” at the annual meeting of the European Society for Environmental History in Amsterdam.

His 2007 publications include “Utmaning för nästa generation att hitta en väg till hållbar konsumption” (“Finding a Path towards Sustainable Consumption”) in *Konsumera mera—dyrköpt lycka*, Johansson, ed.; and “Independence, Globalization, and Rice and Beans” in *Taking Stock: Belize at 25 Years of Independence*, Casademunt, ed.

## GRADUATE STUDENTS

**Sebastián Carassai's** article "The Noisy Majority: An Analysis of the Argentine Crisis of December 2001 from the Theoretical Approach of Hardt & Negri, Laclau, and Zizek" appeared in the *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies* 16 (1), 2007. In addition, "San La Muerte: The Non-Saint Saint, Identity, Ideology, and Resistance" appeared in the *Journal for Cultural Research* 11 (1), 2007.

**Andrew Logemann's** recent conference presentations include "Denaturalizing the Nation: Borders, Cartography and Historiography in *The Shadow Lines*" at the Midwest Conference on British Studies in Dayton, OH; "Communicable Bodies, Precarious Subjects: *Ulysses*, Germ Theory and Public Health" at the 2007 North American James Joyce Conference in Austin, TX; and "Genre and Pedagogy: Teaching Genres as Interpretive Categories" at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in New York, NY.

**Lynn Ramert's** article entitled "A Century Apart: The

Personality Performances of Oscar Wilde in the 1890s and U2's Bono in the 1990s" is forthcoming in *Popular Music and Culture*. She will present a condensed version of the paper at the Popular Culture Association's national conference in San Francisco in March 2008.

**Sara Walsh** was awarded the Borkenstein Award for Academic Excellence in 2007. She presented "You are Here: Danger Maps, Safety Advice and the Boundaries of Women's Space" at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology in November; the paper is forthcoming in *Gender, Place and Culture*.

She also presented "Chains and Circles: Hierarchy and the Status of Animals" (with Steve Russell) at the Kindred Spirits Conference at IU in September 2006; the paper is forthcoming in *Society and Animals*. "Sex, Lies, and Law: Moral Turpitude as an Enforcer of Gender and Sexuality Norms" (with K. Eckhardt and S. Russell) appeared in *Sexuality Research & Social Policy*. ♦

## (New Faculty Members, continued from page 5)

postmodernism. He has also co-edited the volume *Images: A Reader*, and edited *From Kant to Lévi-Strauss* and *Contemporary Critical Theorists*.

**Michiko Suzuki** is an assistant professor of East Asian Languages & Cultures. Her research interests are in the areas of modern Japanese literature, film and popular culture, as well as gender and cultural studies. Her current book project, *The Evolution of Love: Women's Writing, Identity and Love Discourses in Japanese Pre-war Culture*, focuses on discourses about same-sex love, love marriage and maternal love—new terms created in Japan during the early twentieth century. Interweaving literature, history and a range of cultural discourses, this work explores how modern female identity was imagined through ideas about love during 1910s through the 1940s. She is also working on several cultural studies projects, including a study of important prewar Japanese "media events" (such as debates and scandals) that transformed notions of sexuality in popular media, literature and culture. ♦

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Robert Ivie, IU Professor of Communication and Culture and Cultural Studies faculty, was a founding editor of a National Communication Association quarterly journal *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*. Published by Routledge, CCCS features critical inquiry that cuts across academic boundaries to focus on social, political, and cultural practices from the standpoint of communication and in consideration of the requirements of a more democratic culture. We ask how communication functions as an articulation of power and how we might reflect upon it as a source of democratic culture. Articles address issues such as class, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, polity, environment, and glob-

alization from the perspective of historical context, material and economic conditions, institutional settings, political initiatives, practices of resistance, and/or the discursive formations of everyday life. The spirit of the journal is one of innovation and critique. More information about CCCS, including a list of articles published to date and instructions for online submission of manuscripts, is available at [www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/14791420.asp](http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/14791420.asp). ♦



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