

Talking Points: Happy Summer!

June 2, 2017

From the Dean's Office

The Dean's Office is pleased to announce the awardees for this year's Dean's Challenge Grants. This is the fourth year that **Dean Kent Sandstrom** has offered these grants to college faculty. The grants are designed to support research and creative activity by AHSS faculty members. This year's Challenge Grants emphasized interdisciplinary, diversity, international, and pedagogical scholarship. The office received 16 proposals and was able to fund six of those proposals. All the proposals were high quality and exemplified the innovative and exciting scholarship going on in our college. This year's awardees are:

- **Michael Christenson** (Associate Professor of Architecture): Research on the Pruitt-Igoe Housing Project
- **Kristen Fellows** (Assistant Professor of Anthropology): "Formation, Maintenance, and Dissolution of an African American Identity on Hispaniola"
- **Gordon Fraser** (Assistant Professor of English): Research supporting his work, *Star Territory: Printing the Universe in Nineteenth-Century America*
- **Meghan Kirkwood** (Assistant Professor of Visual Arts) and **Heath Wing** (Assistant Professor of Modern Languages): "Saints and Landscapes: Rural Iconography of Argentine Folk Saint Gaucho Gil"
- **Julia Kowalski** (Assistant Professor of Anthropology): "Between Rights and Kinship: The History of Family Counseling in Jaipur, Rajasthan"
- **Kelly Sassi** (Associate Professor of English): Research on the Fort Totten Boarding School

Architecture and Landscape Architecture

Paul Gleye, Professor of Architecture, recently published "Study Abroad in a Time of Terror: U.S. Student Experiences in Brussels," in *Frontiers; the Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad*. **Gleye** was in Brussels with 17 NDSU architecture students for their spring semester term abroad when the terrorist attacks occurred there in March 2016. This essay records the students' responses to the horrific events and their views on the future of study abroad programs in unsettled times. **Gleye** concludes with recommendations to prepare students for uncertainty and to provide support in time of need.

Communication

Catherine Kingsley Westerman (Assistant Professor of Communication) published a paper entitled "How Koreans and Americans Use Voice and Silence to Restore Equity in Workplace Friendships" with her coauthors Stephen Spates, Katie Reno, Erica Jenkins and Kate Lee. This cross-cultural work was published in a Korean journal (*Ewha Journal of Social Sciences*) as it investigated workplace friendships in the U.S. and Korea.

Justin Walden (Assistant Professor of Communication) published a paper with **Catherine Kingsley Westerman**, titled "Employee communication, job engagement, and organizational commitment: A study of members of the Millennial Generation" in the *Journal of Public Relations Research*. In addition, **Walden** published the article, "Social networking in the aging context: Why older adults use or avoid Facebook" in *Telematics & Informatics*.

Robert Mejia, assistant professor in the Department of Communication, presented his invited lecture "Playing with Laura Mulvey: Videogame Graphics and Gender Representation" at Portland State University in Oregon on March 8. The lecture focused on how sexual and gender politics are embedded in the technical design of videogame platforms. **Dr. Mejia's**, short essay, "The Ethics of Ludic Reflection and Emotional Obligation," was featured on the curated blog *In*

Media Res (<http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/imr/2017/05/08/ethics-ludic-reflection-and-emotional-obligation>.) **Mejia's** paper titled, "Ideology and Epistemology, Or Why Media Literacy Alone Will Not Save Us," was one of 12 papers accepted for the Data & Society Research Institutes' "Propaganda and Media Manipulation Workshop." The paper co-written with Kay Beckermann and Curtis Sullivan (both NDSU Department of Communication Doctoral Students) argues that contemporary post-truth and fake news scholarship must recognize the historical continuities and ideological contingencies that make post-truth and fake news legible to various audiences. In addition, **Mejia** co-edited book titled, *100 Greatest Video Game Characters*, was published by Rowman & Littlefield. Co-edited with Jaime Banks (West Virginia University) and Aubrie Adams (California Polytechnic State University), the book includes contributors from across the globe and explores the cultural and historical significance of video game characters.

Melissa Vosen Callens, assistant professor of practice in the Department of Communication, published an article, "The Cultural Diamond as an English Teacher's Best Friend." The article appears in the May 2017 issue of *English Journal*. **Vosen Callens** was also awarded a Library Endowment Grant to purchase a DVD copy of *Digital Disconnect*, a 2017 documentary produced by the Media Education Foundation.

Criminal Justice and Political Science

Kevin Thompson's (Professor of Criminal Justice) manuscript that he co-authored with former graduate student **Sarah Joyce**, titled "Do Victim Impact Panels Reduce Drunk Driving Recidivism?", has been accepted for publication in *Restorative Justice: An International Journal*.

Division of Performing Arts

Theatre NDSU completed a successful run of "**The Odyssey**" on April 27-29 and May 4-6, Homer's classic as reinterpreted by Tony Award-winning playwright Mary Zimmerman. This was the final Zimmerman play performed in the Fargo-Moorhead area as part of the **Mary Zimmerman Festival, a Tri-College Theatre Colloquium**.

Jess Jung (Assistant Professor of Theatre) received a grant from The Arts Partnership to develop a production for F-M audiences 5 and under. This specialized theatre form called TVY, or Theatre for the Very Young, is produced at many reputable children's theaters across the country, including the Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis, MN.

The Challey School of Music has named **Hannah Swanson**, a junior majoring in piano performance, as the recipient of the 2017 Presser Scholarship, a \$4,000 tuition cash award from the Presser Foundation. The award was made at the school's Honors Recital on April 23.

The Challey School of Music hosted the **North Dakota Day of Percussion** on April 27, featuring internationally acclaimed percussionist and composer **Ney Rosauro**. He performed that evening with the NDSU Percussion Ensemble and the North Dakota Intercollegiate Percussion Ensemble, and also joined in the NDSU Wind Symphony concert on April 29 to perform his *2nd Marimba Concerto*.

The **Temptations** touring show in Fargo on April 28 was backed by an all-Bison saxophone section: **Matthew Patnode** (NDSU professor), **Chris Schuster** (NDSU 2013 BME alum), **Brian Hanegan** (NDSU DMA candidate, Augustana University instructor), **Danijel Zeric** (NDSU BM Performance 2016), and **Zack Sorenson** (NDSU junior, Music Education).

Jo Ann Miller, director of choral activities, conducted a performance of J.S. Bach's masterwork based on the crucifixion, *St. John Passion*, on April 30 at First Lutheran Church with the NDSU Concert Choir, the Baroque Festival Orchestra, and faculty, student, alumni, and

guest soloists. **Virginia Sublett**, professor of voice, gave her final performance as a member of the NDSU faculty and was honored at a reception following the concert. We wish Dr. Sublett heartfelt congratulations on her retirement as she returns to the San Diego area.

Other major concerts in the past month: the **NDSU Jazz Lab Band and Jazz Ensemble** on April 25, the **University Symphony Orchestra and University Band** on April 28, and the Spring Choral Concert on May 7 featuring **Cantemus, NDSU Statesmen, the Madrigal Singers**, and **University Chamber Singers**.

Students in the **NDSU chapter of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME)** organized a Folk Dance Festival in the mall outside Reineke Fine Arts Center on May 10 with live music and group dancing, attracting participants from across campus and the community.

The **2017 NDSU Chamber Music Festival**, organized by **Tyler Wottrich**, festival artistic director and assistant professor of piano, will take place on June 1-6 featuring NDSU student pianists and world-class string players. Guest artists include the **Prometheus Trio** from the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music and **David Harding**, viola professor from Carnegie Mellon School of Music in Pittsburgh. Free concerts will be held at Beckwith Recital Hall on June 1, June 5 and June 6 at 7:30 p.m. In addition, a masterclass will be June 5 at noon in Beckwith and an off-campus concert will be June 6 at noon at Plains Art Museum.

The **2017 BisonArts Gala** is set for June 20 at the Sanctuary Events Center, with the world premiere of "Come Together," a showcase featuring the **BisonArts Singers'** renditions of Beatles' classics. Proceeds from the gala are directed toward the mission of the Division of Performing Arts. Details at: <https://www.ndsualumni.com/2017/bisonarts-gala>

English

Dr. Verena Theile, Associate Professor of English, delivered the keynote at Dickinson State University's Literature and Language conference on April, 28. The talk was entitled "Cursing Shakespeare: "I would challenge you to a battle of wits, but I see you are unarmed."

On April 29th, **Theile** delivered the keynote at Dickinson State University's annual "Celebration of Scholars." The talk was entitled "Cultural Capital, Living Archives, Transgender Pedagogy: Facilitating Student-Faculty Research Collaborations with Undergraduates in the Humanities" and discussed, in the context of UG recruitment and retention, NDSU's various student-faculty collaborations, focusing in particular on the McNair Scholars, Public History, and English outreach programs.

History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies

Catherine Anne Blankenship (Assistant Professor of Religious Studies) presented the talk "Faith and Injustice: Religious Responses to the WWII Japanese American Incarceration" as part of the University of North Dakota's 2017 International Studies Speaker Series: Social Justice in a Global World in April. The Massachusetts Historical Society discussed her paper "Interreligious Responses to the Settlement House Movement, 1880-1924" as part of their American Society and Culture Seminar on April 25th. As a guest speaker at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fargo-Moorhead on May 7th, she gave the presentation "Confronting Fears about our Fellow Americans." Blankenship will spend a month in New York City this summer as an NEH Summer Scholar for an institute on American material culture.

Dr. Angela Smith and her **Intro to Museum Studies** class researched, wrote, designed, and constructed a new history exhibit that opened May 8 to a large audience at Bonanzaville. **Uncovering Vice in Fargo/Moorhead, 1871-1920** looks at shady trade in Fargo/Moorhead through the story of a central character, brothel owner Melvina Massey. The exhibit explores the history of F/M and provides detail on the rowdy side of life in the late 19th-

century in these two Red River towns. Another section focuses on artifacts found in a salvage archeology project conducted last fall by **Dr. Kristen Fellows** and Smith. The new Fargo City Hall is under construction at the site of the former Fargo Red Light District. The faculty members, with permission from the city, could access dirt from the location shortly after it was dumped at the landfill. Fellows and Smith invited students to help them sift through it. Research on artifacts was conducted by students of **Dr. John Creese** and Fellows, and they shared it with the museum studies class. This section of the exhibit also offers a child-friendly excavation sandbox and posters of the archeology process. The exhibit will be on display until May 2018.

Dr. Angela Smith and five of her students, two undergraduate and three graduate students, traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana (they drove!) for the National Council on Public History Annual Conference. **Dr. Smith**, history PhD student **Dan Newland**, and undergraduate public history and horticulture major, **Torie Jones**, led a panel titled *Middle America: Expanding Public History Engagement*. This panel explored the different ways public historians engage and serve populations in Middle America. Engagement manifests itself in unexpected ways: a public history field school that renovates and reinvigorates a small-town museum, cultural and technological innovations connecting the public with big ideas about history, and entrepreneurial tourism that seeks to educate and entertain visitors. While two other graduate students, **Angela Beaton** and **Kaci Johnson**, and an undergraduate student, **Kirbie Sondreal**, did not present, in their first NCPH conference they soaked up information in sessions and networked extensively.

Bradley Benton, Assistant Professor of History, published a monograph with Cambridge University Press. *The Lords of Tetzoco: The Transformation of Indigenous Rule in Postconquest Central Mexico* is volume 104 in the Cambridge Latin American Studies series and was released on May 2.

North Dakota State University Press

May 12, 2017, the Midwest Independent Publishers Association announced at their book awards gala in St. Paul, Minnesota, that **Dr. Suzanne Kelley**, Editor in Chief at NDSU Press, will serve as MIPA's new president. She will take on her new duties July 1, 2017. Founded in 1984, MIPA is a vibrant professional nonprofit association that serves the upper-Midwest independent publishing community through education, networking, and peer recognition. MIPA is proud to be a sponsor of the Midwest Book Awards and a regional affiliate of the Independent Book Publishers Association. The twelve-state region represented by MIPA includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Visual Arts

Kim Bromley's (Professor, Visual Arts) paper, "Confronting Major Painting Issues in One Studio Session," has been accepted for the PUSHING PAINT session for the 2017 South East College Art Conference meeting in Columbus, Ohio, October 25-28.