The Faculty Notebook, April 2010

Abstract

The Faculty Notebook is published periodically by the Office of the Provost at Gettysburg College to bring to the attention of the campus community accomplishments and activities of academic interest. Faculty are encouraged to submit materials for consideration for publication to the Associate Provost for Faculty Development. Copies of this publication are available at the Office of the Provost.

Keywords

Provost’s Office, Faculty Publishing, Academic Publishing, Academic Achievement, Gettysburg College

Disciplines

Library and Information Science | Scholarly Publishing

This newsletter is available at The Cupola: Scholarship at Gettysburg College: https://cupola.gettysburg.edu/facnotebook/2
Yasemin Akbaba, Assistant Professor of Political Science, published “Who Discriminates More? Comparing Religious Discrimination in Western Democracies, Asia and the Middle East” in Civil Wars, Vol. 11 (2009): 321-358. The study, which introduces a new data collection on global religious discrimination, indicates that western democracies treat their religious minorities much better than do Middle Eastern and Asian countries. Interestingly, the Middle East, considered an area with high religious tension, does not exhibit significantly higher average religious discrimination than that found in Asia.

Matthew H. Amster, Associate Professor of Anthropology, published “Portable Potency: Christianity, Mobility and Spiritual Landscapes among the Kelabit” in Anthropological Forum, Vol. 19 (2009): 307-322. The article explores religious conversion among the Kelabit of Borneo, illustrating how Christian belief and practice have both facilitated wider geographic mobility and led to reinscriptions of new spiritual meanings in the Kelabit rural homelands.

Lidia Anchisi, Associate Professor of Italian, published “One, No One, and a Hundred Thousand: On Being a Korean Woman Adopted by European Parents” in The Intersectional Approach: Transforming the Academy Through Race, Class, & Gender, edited by Michele Tracy Berger and Kathleen Guidroz (University of North Carolina Press, 2009). The chapter (pages 290-299) analyzes the author’s personal struggles as a transracial adoptee in light of the internal conflict regarding racial identity that has been noted by a number of transracial adoptees. Anchisi focuses on the disjunction between the identity of the transracial adoptee and the outsider’s interpretation of the racial codes embodied by the adoptee.


Richard Barvainis, Research Fellow in Physics, with co-authors M. Kishimoto (lead author), S. F. Höning, R. Antonucci, T. Kotani, K. R. W. Tristram, and G. Weigelt, published “Exploring the inner region of type 1 AGNs with the Keck interferometer,” Astronomy and Astrophysics, Vol. 507 (2009): L57-L60. The paper reports observations of four super-massive black holes at the centers of galaxies, providing new information on the sizes of the dusty disks of material that surround them. The scientists used the two Keck telescopes on top of Mauna Kea in Hawaii, combined as an interferometer to provide ultra-high angular resolution. These are the largest optical/infrared telescopes in the world.

individual to strategically delay agreement in an attempt to capture a greater share of the surplus created by the exchange. The authors use experimental methods to explore this potential in a laboratory bargaining game that involves multi-person groups, complementary exchanges, and holdout externalities.

Gerardo L. F. Carfagno, Visiting Assistant Professor of Biology, and Patrick J. Weatherhead published “Ratsnake response to bottomland flooding: implications for avian nest predation,” *Acta Herpetologica*, Vol. 4 (2009): 191-194. The authors disprove the hypothesis that the decrease in ratsnake predation on nesting birds during flooding is due to snakes’ becoming less active or leaving the area. The authors propose that the decrease may be due instead to snakes’ preying more extensively on small mammals that are restricted to trees when the forest is flooded.

Carfagno also published “Linking snake behavior to nest predation in a Midwestern bird community” in *Ecological Applications*, Vol. 20 (2010): 234-241. The paper, co-authored with Weatherhead, Jinelle H. Sperry, Jeffrey D. Brawn, and Scott K. Robinson, presents results from one of the first field studies to simultaneously monitor both snake behavior and the resulting impact on nesting songbirds. The article’s findings suggest that higher nest predation in fragmented snake habitats results indirectly from edges promoting larger snake populations.

Paul Carrick, Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, published “Deep Ecology and End of Life Care” in *Contemporary Bioethics: A Reader with Cases*, edited by Jessica Pierce and George Randels (Oxford University Press, 2010). The chapter (pages 460-470) examines the relationship between medical ethics and environmental ethics. Carrick argues that deep ecology, in particular, would run roughshod over patients’ rights at the end of life if it were embraced as a philosophy of medical care.


Kwame Essien, Derrick Gondwe Scholar and Visiting Instructor of History, and co-author Toyin Falola published *Culture and Customs of Sudan*, Greenwood Press, 2009. The book’s themes include religion, politics, cuisine, marriage, and family in Sudan, with particular attention to the North-South divide, issues relating to various forms of progress in the country, and stories about the “lost boys/girls.”


Shelli L. Frey, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, with co-authors Luka Pocivavsek, Alan J. Waring, Frans J. Walther, Jose M. Hernandez-Juviel, Piotr Ruchala, and Ka Yee C. Lee, published “Functional Importance of the NH2-Terminal Insertion Sequence of Lung Surfactant B,” American Journal of Physiology - Lung Cell and Molecular Physiology, Vol. 298 (2010): L335-L347. To design lung surfactant replacement therapies for premature babies and patients with acute respiratory distress, the functional role of each surfactant component in the native mixture must be known. This work focuses on how the structure of lung surfactant protein B affects its pulmonary function.

Timothy W. Funk, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, published “Enantioselective Synthesis of 5-epi-Citreoviral Using Ruthenium-Catalyzed Asymmetric Ring-Closing Metathesis,” Organic Letters, Vol. 11 (2009): 4998-5001. The article describes the application of asymmetric ring-closing metathesis to the 17-step synthesis of a complex organic molecule called 5-epi-citreoviral. This is one of very few applications of asymmetric olefin metathesis to complex molecule synthesis.


Caroline A. Hartzell, Professor of Political Science, and Matthew Hoddie, with Molly Bauer ’05, published “Economic Liberalization via IMF Structural Adjustment: Sowing the Seeds of Civil War?” in International Organization, Vol. 64 (2010): 339-56. Analyzing all data available for the period 1970-1999, the authors identify an association between the adoption of International Monetary Fund structural adjustment programs and the onset of civil war.

Julia Hendon, Associate Professor and Chair of Anthropology, published Houses in a Landscape: Memory and Everyday Life in Mesoamerica, Duke University Press, 2010. A study of the Maya kingdom of Copan and two neighboring societies in Honduras, the book illuminates the connection between social identity, social memory, and lived experience.

Bruce A. Larson, Associate Professor of Political Science, and co-author Marc J. Hetherington published Parties, Politics, and Public Policy in America, 11th edition, Congressional Quarterly Press, 2010. In this overview of how parties work and shape public policy in America, the authors explore why the recent resurgence of party strength has not led to a more effective or responsible government.


Leebron also published “The Idiot, or Life in Wartime” in TriQuarterly, Vol. 132 (2008/2009): 165-185. This 8,000 word story is about a man who, in protest of a war, chains himself to the White House fence with his two-year-old son. The story was twice optioned as a feature film.


Laurence A. Marschall, W.K.T. Sahm Professor of Physics, Juan Carlos Morales (first author), and Guillermo Torres published “Absolute Dimensions of the G7+K7 Eclipsing Binary Star IM Virginis: Discrepancies with Stellar Evolution Models,” *The Astrophysical Journal*, Vol. 707 (2009): 671-686. This is one of a series of papers with collaborators at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics that is revealing important factors, in particular the role of high magnetic fields, that affect the lives of stars. The authors relied on an extensive set of measurements made by William Brehm ’08 at the Gettysburg College observatory.

Brian P. Meier, Assistant Professor of Psychology, and Benjamin M. Wilkowski published “Bring It On: Angry Facial Expressions Potentiate Approach-Motivated Motor Behavior” in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, Vol. 98 (2010): 201-210. Although many psychological models suggest that human beings are invariably motivated to avoid negative stimuli, recent theories suggest that people are motivated to approach angering social challenges in order to confront and overcome them. In three experiments, the authors found that angry (vs. fearful or neutral) facial expressions potentiated approach-motivated motor behaviors.

Meier and Sarah Dionne ’07 published “Downright Sexy: Verticality, Implicit Power, and Perceived Physical Attractiveness” in *Social Cognition*, Vol. 27 (2009): 883-892. Evolutionary psychologists propose that desirable males are those who have status and resources (in other words, who are powerful), while desirable females are those who are youthful and faithful (in other words, who are powerless). Using vertical position as an implicit cue for power (up is powerful; down is powerless), the authors found support for this theory. Male participants rated pictures of females as more attractive when their images appeared on the bottom of a computer screen, and female participants rated pictures of males as more attractive when their images appeared on the top of a computer screen.

Meier and Tina M. Toburen ’08 published “Priming God-Related Concepts Increases Anxiety and Task Persistence” in the *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*, Vol. 29 (2010): 127-143. The article reports on an experimental design used to prime participants with God-related or neutral (non-God related) concepts before they completed an unsolvable anagram task described as a measure of “verbal intelligence.” The results suggests that experimentally induced God-related thoughts caused participants to persist longer on a stressful task, but also to feel more anxious after finishing it.

Meier, with co-authors Taya R. Cohen (first author), Verlin B. Hinsz, and Chet A. Insko, published “Competitive group interactions: Why they exist and how to overcome them” in *The Handbook of Working with Difficult Groups*, edited by S. Schuman (Jossey-Bass, 2010). The chapter (pages 223-236) details when and why interactions between groups are competitive and how competition can be replaced with cooperation.

Meier, with Michael D. Robinson, Margaret S. Carter ’09, and Verlin B. Hinsz, published “Are Sociable People more Beautiful? A Zero-Acquaintance Analysis of Agreeableness, Extraversion, and Attractiveness,” in *Journal of Research in Personality*, Vol. 44 (2010): 293-296. It is assumed that stereotypes that ascribe positive social traits to attractive individuals are erroneous. But the authors found that people rated more attractive by strangers were also high in agreeableness and
extraversion, two personality traits most relevant to interpersonal behavior. The results suggest a kernel of truth to the idea that attractive individuals are also more sociable.


Monica Ogra, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies and Globalization Studies, published “Attitudes toward resolution of human-wildlife conflict among forest-dependent agriculturalists near Rajaji National Park, India” in Human Ecology, Vol. 37 (2009): 161-177. The paper presents results of a case study that Ogra conducted at the border of a national park in north India.

Peter Pella, Professor of Physics, contributed two chapters to The Oxford International Encyclopedia of Peace, edited by Nigel Young (Oxford University Press, 2009). The chapters are titled “Nuclear Nonproliferation” and “The International Atomic Energy Agency.”

Voon Chin Phua, Assistant Professor of Sociology, with Desirée Ciambrone and Obed Vazquez, published “Advertising Health Status in Male Sex Workers’ Online Ads,” The Journal of Men’s Studies, Vol. 17 (2009): 251-258. Analyzing 203 male escorts’ online ads collected from America Online chat rooms in 2001 and 2002, the authors found that whether male escorts mentioned health in their ads is correlated with the type of images they would like to portray and with the type of services they offer.


Rinke also published “Finding their way on: Career decision-making processes of urban science teachers” in Science Education, Vol. 93 (2009): 1096-1121. This article draws upon the experiences of beginning urban teachers to understand how new teachers grow professionally during the early years of their chosen career.

Rinke, with L.R. Valli, also published “Making adequate yearly progress: Teacher learning in school-based accountability contexts” in Teachers College Record, Vol. 112 (2010): 645-684. The paper uses case studies of three elementary schools to explore the role of school culture in the implementation of professional development around standardized testing.

Nicholas P. Robbins, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, published “Zero area singularities in general relativity and inverse mean curvature flow,” Classical and Quantum Gravity, Vol. 27 (2010): 025011. The article restates the definition of a zero area singularity, recently introduced by H. L. Bray, and considers several definitions of mass for these singularities. The author uses the inverse mean curvature flow to prove some new results about the mass of a singularity, the ADM mass of the manifold, and the capacity of the singularity.

Richard Russell, Assistant Professor of Psychology, with Haiwen Chen, Ken Nakayama, and Margaret Livingstone, published “Crossing the ‘Uncanny Valley’: adaptation to cartoon faces can influence perception of human faces,” Perception, Vol. 39 (2010): 378-386. The authors found that people who watched a Japanese anime cartoon in which the faces had very large eyes subsequently preferred faces with larger eyes than did people who watched a video with actual human faces. This effect of watching cartoon faces on subsequent perception of human faces suggests that the perception of faces is supported by neural circuits specific to faces but common to all kinds of faces.

Abigail A. Scholer, Assistant Professor of Psychology, and Tory E. Higgins published “Engaging the consumer: The science and art of the value creation process,” Journal of Consumer Psychology, Vol. 19 (2009): 100-114. The authors explore factors that affect how much people value something (e.g., a coffee mug, an A in a class, a publication). In particular, they focus on the effect of the manner in which people pursue the goal on the intensity of the value of achieving the goal.

Scholer and Higgins also published “Regulatory focus in a demanding world” in the Handbook of Personality and Self-Regulation, edited by R. Hoyle, Blackwell Publishing, 2010. The chapter (pages 291-314) explores how individuals’ “ways of seeing” the world and “ways of coping” in the world reveal important aspects of their personality and self-regulatory orientations.

Stephanie Sellers, Director of the Women’s Center and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, published her column titled “Teachings from the Longhouse” in the Spring 2009, Fall 2009, and Winter 2009-10 issues of Central Pennsylvania Holistic Health Networker. The column focuses on Eastern Woodlands Native American traditions.

Timothy Shannon, Professor and Chair of History, published “The Native American Way of War in the Age of Revolutions, 1754-1814,” War in an Age of Revolution, 1775-1815, edited by Roger Chickering and Stig Forster (Cambridge University Press, 2010). The chapter (pages 137-157) discusses the ways in which Native Americans in the Ohio and Great Lakes regions adapted their military culture in response to their encounters with professionally trained European armies.

Stephen M. Siviy, Professor of Psychology, with Courtney L. Steets ’09, and Lauren M. DeBrouse ’09, published “Effects of chlordiazepoxide on predator odor-induced reductions of playfulness in juvenile rats” in Behavioural Brain Research, Vol. 206 (2010): 254-262. The article looks at how a non-sedative dose of a prototypical benzodiazepine (chlordiazepoxide) modifies the behavioral response towards a predator odor in juvenile rats. The results show that chlordiazepoxide altered the defensive strategy used by the rats and led to an earlier return to pre-threat levels of playfulness.

Divonna M. Stebick, Assistant Professor of Education, with coauthors Carol Rinke, Assistant Professor of Education, Lauren Schaeffer ’09, Evan Gaffney ’09, Jason Leiter ’08, and Megan Woods ’09, published “Using blogs to foster inquiry, collaboration, and feedback in pre-service teacher education” in Information technology and constructivism in higher education: Progressive learning Frameworks, edited by C.R. Payne (IGI Global, 2009). The article offers a critical pedagogical perspective on the interaction of constructivism and the deployment of information technology in higher education.

Eileen Stillwaggon, Professor of Economics and Evans-Eisenhower Professor, with co-authors Peter Hotez, Marian McDonald, Lynn Todman, and Lydia DiGrazia, published the conference summary of the National Summit on Neglected Infections of Poverty in the United States in Emerging Infectious Diseases, Vol. 16 (2010). The article reports the results of the October 27, 2009, conference held in Washington DC and organized by the Eisenhower Institute in collaboration with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, George Washington University, the Adler School of Professional Psychology, and the American Public Health Association on several neglected diseases with a significant burden of morbidity and mortality among poor people in the United States. The diseases primarily affect people in inner cities, borderlands, tribal lands, Appalachia, and post-Katrina Deep South.

Michael Strickland, Assistant Professor of Physics, with N. Su and J.O. Andersen (first author), published “Three-loop HTL Free Energy for QED,” Phys. Rev. D 80, 085015 (2009). In this paper, Strickland and collaborators present results of a quantum field theory calculation of the pressure of a gas of electrons and photons including quantum corrections through 3rd order (loop). They show that by reorganizing the calculation using the so-called hard-thermal-loop perturbation theory the result converges at couplings as large as e ~ 2.

Strickland and co-author M. Martinez published “Constraining the onset of viscous hydrodynamics,” Nuclear Physics A 830, 615c (2009). The authors derive two general criteria that can be used to constrain the initial time of the onset of 2nd order conformal viscous hydrodynamics in relativistic heavy-ion collisions. They show this explicitly for 0+1 dimensional boost-invariant viscous hydrodynamics and discuss how to extend the constraint to higher dimensions.

Strickland and Martinez published “Matching pre-equilibrium dynamics and viscous hydrodynamics,” in Phys. Rev. C 81, 024906 (2010). The authors demonstrate how to match pre-equilibrium dynamics of a 0+1-dimensional quark-gluon plasma to second-order viscous hydrodynamical evolution. The matching allows for the specification of the initial values of the energy density and shear tensor at the initial time of hydrodynamical evolution as a function of the lifetime of the pre-equilibrium period.

Strickland, Jens O. Andersen, and Nan Su published “Gluon Thermodynamics at Intermediate Coupling,” Phys. Rev. Lett. 104, 122003 (2010). The authors calculate the thermodynamic functions of Yang-Mills theory to three-loop order using the hard-thermal-loop perturbation theory reorganization of finite temperature quantum field theory. The article shows that at three-loop order, hard-thermal-loop perturbation theory is compatible with lattice results for the pressure, energy density, and entropy down to temperatures T ~ 2 - 3 Tc.
Yan Sun, Associate Professor of Art History, and Wei Cao published Bronzes from Northern Shaanxi, Bashu Press, 2009. This five-volume bilingual English and Chinese catalogue on bronzes from the northern Shaanxi province in northwestern China includes research articles and catalogues of more than 600 bronzes dated from the Shang dynasty (ca. 1500-1050 BCE) to the Han period (202 BCE-220 CE). It is the first comprehensive book on bronzes from the northern Shaanxi province.


Shirley Anne Warshaw, Professor of Political Science, published The Co-Presidency of Bush and Cheney, Stanford University Press, 2009. The book examines the role that Vice President Cheney played in the 2000 campaign and presidential transition. Cheney’s staffing of key administration posts created an anti-regulatory agenda, developed the unitary executive platform, and ignited the war in Iraq.


Charles L. Weise, Associate Professor and Chair of Economics, and Robert T. Barbera published “Minsky meets Wicksell: Using the Wicksellian Model to Understand the Twenty-First Century Business Cycle,” Macroeconomic Theory and Macroeconomic Pedagogy, edited by Giuseppe Fontana and Mark Setterfield, Palgrave MacMillan, 2009. The chapter (pages 214-233) presents a model that combines the basic framework of New Keynesian macroeconomic models with insights from the work of Hyman Minsky. The authors show how the model can be used to explain the recent financial crisis and the policy responses of the Federal Reserve.

Kevin Wilson, Assistant Professor of Psychology, with co-author James Taylor ’09, published “Letters, not words, are recognized holistically” in Perception, Vol. 38 (2009):1572-1574. In a series of experiments, the authors report differences in the way that humans process whole words and individual letters during reading. The authors conclude that while our visual system explicitly represents the individual features that make up a whole word (i.e., the letters), it does not explicitly represent the individual features that make up a letter in the same way.

Anne Xu-Cobb, Assistant Professor of Chinese, published “The Plebeian Artist, or the Transcendental Storyteller: Some Thoughts on Yu Hua’s Brothers” in Orientierungen Themenheft (2009):106-113. The article is a critical essay on Yu Hua’s latest controversial novel and the author’s transformation as an artist.

Leo Shingchi Yip, Assistant Professor of Asian Studies, published “Experimenting with Chinese Language and Classics: Zeami’s Treatise Goi,” in Sino-Japanese Studies, Vol. 16 (2009): 153-170. The article examines Goi (Five Levels), the only extant treatise written in (pseudo) classical Chinese by Zeami, the seminal playwright and theorist of Japanese noh theatre. The article analyzes how Zeami experimented with Chinese classics and language as a pedagogical
vehicle to convey his artistic philosophy. The article also explores the significance of the treatise within the contexts of the theorist’s works and the Chinese influences on the Japanese literary tradition.


**REVIEWS**


Robert M. Viti, Professor of French, reviewed *Zola: réceptions comiques. Le naturalisme parodié; par ses contemporains. prose, poésie, theater*, edited by Daniel Compére and Catherine Dousteyssier-Khoze (Eurédit, 2008), in *French Studies*, Vol. 64 (2010): 95. The book is a collection of parodies of Zola’s works and of the Naturalism movement that were written by Zola’s contemporaries for the popular press.

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**PROFESSIONAL PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Yasemin Akbaba, Assistant Professor of Political Science, and co-author Zeynep Taydas presented “Does Religious Discrimination Promote Dissent? A Quantitative Analysis” at the International Studies Association meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, on February 17, 2010. The paper examined the impact of religious discrimination on the probability of violent and nonviolent ethnic dissent. The authors argued that discrimination on the basis of religion generates grievances, which in turn encourages ethno-religious minorities to engage in peaceful protest or violent opposition to state authority.

At the same conference, Akbaba and co-author Ozgur Ozdamar presented “Patterns of Foreign Policy: Role of Religious Discrimination in World Politics.” The paper considered whether religious discrimination in a given state leads to foreign policy crises with other states.

Christine Ameduri, Assistant Archivist, Musselman Library, gave a talk for the One Book, One Community; Our Region Reads Program, sponsored by the Adams County Public Library. Ameduri’s talk, titled “People of the Book and More! A Behind the Scenes Look at Gettysburg College Special Collections” was delivered at Musselman Library, Gettysburg College, on October 13, 2009.

Ameduri gave a presentation titled “Brittle Books and Broken Bindings: Saving Gettysburg College’s Early Treasures” at Musselman Library, Gettysburg College, on October 20, 2009. The presentation was sponsored by the Friends of Musselman Library.

Emelio Betances, Professor of Sociology and Latin American Studies, presented “Urban Protest Movements in the Dominican Republic” in a panel titled “Religious Responses to Inequality in Twentieth Century Latin America” at the XXVIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 11-14, 2009.

Betances delivered an invited lecture at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, titled “The Left Resurgence, Neoliberalism, and the Prospects for Democracy in Latin America” on February 17, 2010. The lecture focused on recently elected governments that, by calling for a more inclusive society and for strong social welfare programs, have begun to question the neoliberal capitalist scheme that has been promoted as permanent solutions to Latin American economic problems.
Betances presented a paper titled “The Progressive States and the Challenges to Democracy in Latin America” at the Left Forum Congress held in New York City on March 19-21, 2010. The paper examined the social policies promoted by the governments of Venezuela, Bolivia, and Ecuador to make their societies more inclusive and participatory.

Josef Brandauer, Assistant Professor of Health Sciences, Dawnette Urcuyo ’10, and Kristen McMahon ’11 delivered a presentation titled “Effects of Acute Exercise and Epigallocatechin Gallate on Mouse skeletal muscle Nampt levels” at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine (MARC-ACSM) in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on November 6, 2009. The authors compared the effects of acute exercise and treatment with an “anti-aging” compound found in green tea on levels of Nampt, a purported anti-aging protein. Their findings suggest that one bout of exercise does not result in reliable increases of Nampt. Urcuyo won the MARC-ACSM 2009 undergraduate research award for this presentation.

Paul Carrick, Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, delivered the Kienle Lecture in the History of Medicine at Penn State University’s College of Medicine, Hershey, Pennsylvania, on March 24, 2010. In his lecture, titled “The Public Funding of Health Care: Philosophical Reflections on a Fractured History,” Carrick argued that the “philanthropic imperative” found in the later Hippocratic manuscripts can be seen as a unifying and inspiring principle in support of public funding of health care.

John Commito, Professor of Environmental Studies, gave an invited seminar at Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania, on October 22, 2009. Sponsored by the departments of Biology, Mathematics, and Computer Science, the seminar focused on the oceanographic factors that create and maintain the complex spatial patterns of seafloor organisms along the coastline of the Gulf of Maine, with implications for coastal zone management. Commito’s talk, titled “Self-Organization and Power-Law Clustering in Seafloor Animals: the Spatial Ecology of Mussel Beds in Maine,” reviewed a decade of Commito’s research on the coast of Maine with Gettysburg College students. Commito gave an additional presentation about the fractal geometry of seafloor organisms to a marine biology class and met with graduate students and post-doctoral researchers.

Commito also gave an invited lecture at the National Science Foundation-sponsored conference in Pasadena, California, hosted by the California Institute of Technology and California State University- Los Angeles, on January 15, 2010. The talk, titled “Positive Recruitment Feedback and Self-Organization in Soft-Bottom Mussel Beds,” dealt with Commito’s laboratory and field research with students on the spatial dynamics of mussel beds as a layering system. It focused on his recent work with Environmental Studies majors Allison Vissichelli ’08, Kyle Reeves ’08, Natasha Gownaris ’09, Danielle Bates ’10, and Sara Coleman ’10. Gownaris and Jonathan Walter ’10 attended the conference with Commito.

Commito and co-authors Coleman (first author), Bates, and Gownaris presented “Predator and Non-Predator Chemical Cues Alter Mussel Self-Organization into Power-Law Clusters” at the international Benthic Ecology Meetings in Wilmington, North Carolina, on March 11, 2010. The authors reported on summer 2009 research in Maine, where they examined the aggregation response of mussels exposed to so-called infochemicals released by potential enemies like crabs and snails. The authors found that mussels move into a fractal power-law distribution of clusters that lower their risk of being eaten.

Shannon Egan, Director of the Schmucker Art Gallery, delivered a paper at the Southwest Art History Conference in Taos, New Mexico, on October 9, 2009, titled “Edward S. Curtis on ‘White Mussers’ and ‘Primitive Artists’: Photography and Politics in the Southwest.” The paper examined how photographer Edward S. Curtis responded to American Indian policy in the
1920s and also how his activities in both political and artistic arenas corresponded to those of contemporary artists and writers such as D.H. Lawrence, John Sloan, John Collier, and Mary Austin.


Shelli Frey, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, and Matthew Davidson ’10 (first author) gave a poster at the Biophysical Society Meeting in San Francisco, California, on February 22, 2010. The poster, titled “Condensing and Fluidizing Effects of Gangliosides on Various Phospholipid Films,” presented data on how phospholipid molecular structure affects its interactions with gangliosides and the subsequent effect on cell membrane organization.

At the same conference Frey presented a talk “Quantifying Interactions Between Nanoparticles and Model Cell Membranes” on February 24, 2010. Due to their small size, nanoparticles (NPs) have the ability to penetrate pulmonary and vascular tissue, and as a result, are classified as potential human carcinogens. This work, done with Stephanie Maiocco ’10, examined factors that influence the interaction of functionalized NPs with cells in the body.

Frey gave an invited presentation titled “Structure and Dynamics in Model Cell Membranes” at Messiah College, Grantham, Pennsylvania, on October 9, 2009, as part of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department’s 2009-2010 seminar series. The cell membrane is a selectively permeable structure that separates a cell’s interior from its surroundings. The talk at Messiah focused on on-going projects in Frey’s lab with Maiocco and Davidson dealing with lipid monolayers as a model of the outer leaflet of the cell membrane.

Caroline A. Hartzell, Professor of Political Science and Coordinator of Globalization Studies, and Matthew Hoddie presented “Good, Bad, or Ugly? The Effects of Power-sharing Institutions on Democracy in Post-Civil War States” at the International Studies Association’s annual meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, February 17-20, 2010. Focusing on all post-civil war states for the period 1945-1999, the authors found a positive relationship between the adoption of power-sharing institutions and the development of democracy in the post-civil war context.

Virginia Lea, Associate Professor of Education, gave a presentation with Roberta Ahlquist and Ann Berlak titled “The unbearable persistence of hegemonic practices in education: Whiteness, class, monolingualism and accountability” at the National Association for Multicultural Education annual conference in Denver, Colorado, on October 29th, 2009. The authors shared their research on the impact of hegemony in the teacher education classroom and in the wider education system.

Nathalie Lebon, Assistant Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, presented a paper entitled “Impact of Transnational and Neoliberal Politics on Cross-class and Cross-race Coalitions in the Brazilian Women’s Health Movement” at the 2009 National Women’s Studies Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, November 12-15, 2009. The paper discussed the effect of transnational activism and neoliberal macro-economic policies on cross-class and cross-race dialogues within the women’s movement.
Brian P. Meier, Assistant Professor of Psychology, delivered an invited lecture at Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania, on October 27, 2009. The lecture was titled “A Metaphor-Enriched Psychology.”

In April 2010, Meier gave an invited colloquium talk at the University of Rochester, Rochester, New York. The talk was titled “A Metaphor-Enriched Psychology: Embodied Metaphor in Social and Personality Psychology.”

Dave Powell, Assistant Professor of Education, and J.K. Ritter presented “Bah, humbug!: Encouraging knowledgeable practice in social studies through the eradication of bullshit” at the annual meeting of the American Educational Studies Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, November 4-8, 2009. The paper, based on Harry Frankfurt’s influential essay “On Bullshit,” suggested that teachers avoid the pitfalls associated with bullshitting through careful interrogation of the nature of the subjects they teach, rather than the facts drawn from them, and thus direct attention in the classroom away from themselves and toward student learning.

Janet M. Powers, Professor Emerita of Interdisciplinary Studies and Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies, gave an invited lecture at Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, on November 17, 2009. The title of the lecture was “Israeli and Palestinian Women Working for Peace.” The talk, sponsored by the Bryn Mawr Israel Coalition, included readings from Powers’ book, Blossoms on the Olive Tree.

Abigail A. Scholer, Assistant Professor of Psychology, and co-author E.T. Higgins presented a poster titled “Increasing goal commitment: Decoupling regulatory mode from regulatory phase” at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, held January 2010 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The authors explored motivational factors that increased the likelihood that individuals would commit to change (e.g., quitting smoking) if they were ambivalent about the goal.

At the same conference, Scholer, with Higgins and X. Zou, presented “Motivation and decision-making in the domain of gains.” This poster explored motivational factors that influence risky choices.

Carolyn S. Snively, Professor of Classics, presented a paper, “Golemo Gradište at Konjuh, R. Macedonia, 2008-2009: The Basilica,” at the annual meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America, January 6-9, 2010, in Anaheim, CA. The excavation report dealt with the continuing excavation of the intramural basilica, probably the bishop’s church, discovered in 2008 by the Gettysburg College and Museum of Macedonia (Skopje) archaeological project.

Deborah Sommer, Associate Professor of Religion, presented the invited paper “Concepts of the Body in the Zhuangzi” at the First International Summit on Laozi and Daoist Culture. The conference was convened at the Great Hall of the People and the China World Hotel in Beijing, November 5-7, 2009. The Zhuangzi is a classical Daoist philosophical text that dates to the fourth century BCE.

On December 28, 2009, Sommer presented the invited paper “聖人孔子游西藏” (Sages and Apocryphal Canons: Confucius in Tibet) at the Institute of Chinese Philosophy at Zhongshan University (Sun Yat-sen University) in Guangzhou, China. Delivered in Chinese, the paper was presented at the conference “The Canon, Sages and Tradition in Chinese Culture” convened December 28-31, 2009. The paper explored apocryphal legends about Confucius’s encounters with Tibetan Bon divinities as depicted in a nineteenth-century narrative painting from southwest China.
In January 2010 at Zhongshan University, Sommer presented the invited lectures “西方文化中的孔子畫像” (Illustrated Depictions of Confucius in Western Culture) and “文革中的批林批孔和孔子形象的演變” (Depictions of Confucius during the Anti-Confucius Movement of the Cultural Revolution). This was the first time Chinese students heard a public lecture on the Cultural Revolution, which is still largely a taboo topic in the People's Republic of China.

Sommer presented the invited lecture “Depictions of Confucius in the West” at the Center for Chinese Studies Abroad, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, on November 2, 2009. The Center for Chinese Studies Abroad is a new unit of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences that explores how scholars from countries all over the world have studied China.

Sommer presented the invited lecture “The Afterlife of Confucius: Images of the Master, Past and Present” at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island, on February 26, 2010. The lecture was sponsored by the Peggy and Marc Spiegel Center for Global and International Programs.

Michael Strickland, Assistant Professor of Physics, was an invited presenter at the High Energy Theory Seminar at the University of Virginia, in Charlottesville, October 2009. Strickland’s paper, titled “Reorganizing the QCD pressure at intermediate coupling,” discussed a method for improving the convergence of the successive approximations to QCD pressure in a systematic manner which exactly reproduces the perturbative series in the weak-coupling limit.

Strickland delivered the plenary lecture at the Norwegian Winter Workshop on QCD in Extreme Conditions, held on February 25, 2010, in Trondheim, Norway. His lecture, titled “Reorganizing the QCD pressure at intermediate coupling,” discussed his recent work on methods for improving the convergence of finite temperature perturbation theory applied to quantum chromodynamics.

Donald G. Tannenbaum, Associate Professor of Political Science, delivered a paper titled “Reforming American Politics: The Relevance of Locke and Mill” at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 19, 2009. The panel was the second of two sessions reflecting the scholarship of H. Mark Roelofs (1923-2008). Tannenbaum’s paper explored scholarly perspectives about the John Locke’s influence on how Americans think and behave politically and considered the possible effects of replacing the ideas of Locke with those of John Stuart Mill.

Isabel Valiela, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Spanish, Latin American Studies, and Women, Gender, and Sexuality, presented a paper titled “What’s in that Ripple? Positionality in Contemporary Cuban Diaspora Narrative” at the 8th Cuban Research Institute Conference on Cuban and Cuban-American Studies. The conference took place at Florida International University in Miami, February 11-13, 2010. Valiela’s paper explored the multiple factors that influence the positionalities of Cuban diaspora writers such as Zoé Valdés, who lives in France and writes in Spanish, and Cuban-American writers such as Cristina Garcia, who lives in the U.S. and writes in English.

Emelio Betances, Professor of Sociology and Latin American Studies, chaired the business meeting of the Haiti/Dominican Republic Section at the XXVIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 11-14, 2009. At the same conference, Betances served as a discussant for the panel “Challenges and Perspectives on Haiti and the Dominican Republic.”

On February 22 and 23, 2010, Betances gave two research workshops to students in the Graduate Program in Latin American Studies at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México in Mexico City. The first workshop, titled “Labor and Peasant Movements in the Post-Trujillo Society in the Dominican Republic, 1961-1978,” examined the rise and fall of the labor and peasant movements following the collapse of the Trujillo dictatorship. These movements made significant social gains until 1965 when the Dominican revolution was crushed by U.S. military intervention. The second workshop, “Social Movements and Democratic Opening in the Dominican Republic, 1978-2010,” analyzed the democratic opening that followed the defeat of Balaguer in the 1978 elections. This opening offered a political opportunity for new social movements, but the material gains obtained by these movements were rather limited. The implementation of neoliberal economic policies in the 1980s and 1990s dealt a mortal blow to social movements and caused their eventual decline.

Betances organized and chaired the panel “Latin America: Moving Beyond Neoliberalism” at the Left Forum Congress held in New York City on March 19-21, 2010.

Laurel Cohen-Pfister, Associate Professor of German, chaired a roundtable discussion on the documentary film “Jeder schweigt von etwas anderem” (“Last to Know”) at the conference “Twenty Years On: Remembering the GDR and Germany’s Unification Process,” held on September 13, 2009, in Bath, England. The documentary probes the after-effects of political imprisonment in the German Democratic Republic on its protagonists Anne Gollin, Utz Rachowski, and Tine and Matthias Storck and the silence across three generations that surrounds the victims’ experience. Cohen-Pfister arranged the showing of the documentary and the appearance of Utz Rachowski to speak to the contestation of Stasi victim memory in contemporary German memory culture.

Kwame Essien, Derrick Gondwe Scholar and Visiting Instructor of History, served as the Graduate Liaison Coordinator for the 2009 MayMester Study Abroad Program in Ghana. Essien worked with two faculty members from the University of Texas at Austin, student peers at the University of Ghana, Legon, and other administrators to organize, manage, and lead 39 students participating in various educational, social, and cultural activities throughout Ghana.

Caroline A. Hartzell, Professor of Political Science and Coordinator of Globalization Studies, was selected to serve a five-year term on the board of editors of the journal Ethnopolitics. The journal publishes scholarship on ethnic conflicts that is grounded in the disciplines of political science and international relations.

Kim Dana Kupperman, Managing Editor of The Gettysburg Review, and Dustin Beall Smith, Adjunct Assistant Professor of English, taught a workshop titled “Raising Voice: From Whisper to Howl” at the F. Scott Fitzgerald conference for writers at Montgomery College in Rockville, Maryland, on October 17, 2009. The workshop explored that nebulous aspect of prose and verse called “voice,” identifying various modes and descriptions of voice and examining voice in the context of persona and sensibility.
Virginia Lea, Associate Professor of Education, supported a presentation by Adam Schimpf ’11, Brianna Piecyk ’11, Marcella Slick ’11, and Tylor Hykes ’11 titled “Too Many Children Still Left Behind: A critical multicultural approach to building pre-service teacher foundations” at the National Association for Multicultural Education annual conference in Denver, Colorado, on October 29th, 2009. In evaluating the effectiveness of Lea’s EDUC 209 course in preparing teachers to interrupt hegemony and meet critical multicultural literacy goals, the students, who had been facilitators in the course, shared their interpretations of academic and cultural data collected from multiple sources during the semester.

Michael Ritterson, Professor Emeritus of German, has been named to the five-member international jury for the Helen and Kurt Wolff Translator’s Prize. The annual prize, administered by the Goethe-Institut Chicago and funded by the German government, honors an outstanding literary translation from German into English published in the United States the previous year. Ritterson’s term began in 2010.

Deborah Sommer, Associate Professor of Religion, taught a half-day faculty development seminar titled “Buddhism in China” for K-12 teachers convened at the Pingry School, Martinsville, New Jersey, on December 19, 2009. The seminar is part of the Teach China program organized through the China Institute in New York City.

Sommer taught a one-day seminar on Confucianism for the East Asian Studies Program at Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island, on February 27, 2010. The seminar is part of the university’s “China: Continuity and Change” series of professional development workshops sponsored by a U.S. Department of Education Title VI grant.


Sommer served as co-chair of the University Seminar on Neo-Confucian Studies at Columbia University for the 2009-2010 academic year. The seminar convened monthly at Columbia and drew scholars from the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region.

Michael Strickland, Assistant Professor of Physics, gave an invited seminar in the Nuclear Theory Seminar Series at Ohio State University, in Columbus, Ohio, in November 2009. Strickland discussed his recent work on methods for improving the convergence of finite temperature perturbation theory applied to quantum chromodynamics.

Donald G. Tannenbaum, Associate Professor of Political Science, was elected in December 2009 to the Council of Research Committee #12 [Biopolitics] of the International Political Science Association. The Council advises the Executive Committee on policies and procedures concerning Association activities related to biopolitical issues.

Tannenbaum served as chair and discussant on the first of two panels reflecting on the scholarship of H. Mark Roelofs (1923-2008). The panel, titled “Expanding Our Vision of American Impoverishment, Domestic Aspects,” was held at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 19, 2009.

Tannenbaum served as chair and discussant for a panel on political theory at the 71st annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Political Science Association, held in March 2010 in Harrisburg.
Randall Wilson, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies, delivered an invited lecture at the USDA Forest Service National Science Forum in Washington, DC, on March 30, 2010. The lecture, titled "Socio-Environmental Contexts for Forest Planning," examined the effect of social, cultural, and economic sustainability issues on national forest management and planning.

Wilson, Michael Catalano ’10, and Thomas Crawford, East Carolina University, presented a paper titled “Collaborative Conservation and Rural Change in the Intermountain West” at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Washington DC, April 14-18, 2010.

PROFESSIONAL DISTINCTIONS AND AWARDS

Kwame Essien, Derrick Gondwe Scholar and Visiting Instructor of History, was awarded the West Africa Research Association’s (WARA) Pre-Doctoral Fellowship and the Patrice Lumumba Summer Research Fellowship. These two fellowships funded Essien’s summer 2009 archival research in Ghana, Nigeria, and England.

Caroline A. Hartzell, Professor of Political Science, was awarded a Jennings Randolph Senior Fellowship by the United States Institute of Peace for the 2010-2011 academic year. The fellowship program provides a residency for scholars, policy analysts, policymakers, and other experts at the Institute in Washington, DC, to reflect and write on pressing international peace and security challenges. Hartzell will research civil war settlements and post-conflict economic growth.

J. Matthew Kittelberger, Assistant Professor of Biology, is the Principal Investigator along with Co-Principal Investigators Shelli Frey, Assistant Professor of Chemistry; Steve James, Associate Professor of Biology; and Stephen M. Siviy, Professor of Psychology, on a National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation Grant. The grant, awarded in December 2009, will provide $159,756 for the purchase of a new fluorescence and bright-field microscope with advanced digital imaging and analysis capabilities. The microscope will facilitate new student-faculty research initiatives led by these four faculty, as well as by Josef Brandauer, Assistant Professor of Health Sciences, and Jennifer R. Powell, Assistant Professor of Biology.

Kim Dana Kupperman, Managing Editor of The Gettysburg Review, received a notable mention for her essay, “Paved with Good Intentions” (Hotel Amerika, Spring 2008), in the Pushcart Prize XXXIV: Best of the Small Presses anthology (2010)."Paved with Good Intentions" is an autobiographical essay about the death of a father.

Brian P. Meier, Assistant Professor of Psychology, is part of a team of investigators receiving an $80,000 grant from the Leverhulme Trust for a project titled “Practicing Mindfulness as Strategy to Prevent Pre-Mature Judgments.” Mindfulness is a state of moment-to-moment awareness in which people experience their environment without evaluation, defense, or predetermined notions. The grant was awarded on November 30, 2009.

Jacquelynette B. Milingo, Assistant Professor of Physics, received a grant for $833 from the American Astronomical Society Small Research Grants program on March 2010. The award will support of Milingo’s work on planetary nebulae abundance.
Karen C. Pinto, Assistant Professor of History, was named a 2009 Hamad bin Khalifa Fellow. The fellowship funded Pinto’s participation in the third biennial Hamad bin Khalifa Symposium on Islamic Art held in Cordoba, Spain, November 2-4, 2009. Pinto was one of 15 Hamad bin Khalifa Fellows selected.

Jennifer R. Powell, Assistant Professor of Biology, was selected to receive the 2010 Early-Career Faculty Travel Award from the American Society for Microbiology Conference for Undergraduate Educators. Powell is one of eight educators nationwide who will receive full funding to attend the conference, held in San Diego, California, in May 2010.

Dustin Beall Smith, Adjunct Assistant Professor of English, received a Notable Mention for his essay “Invisible Dead” (River Teeth, 9:1, Fall 2007) in the Pushcart Prize XXXIV: Best of the Small Presses anthology (2010).

Deborah Sommer, Associate Professor of Religion, was granted a Fulbright award to teach at Lithuania’s Center for Oriental Studies at Vilnius University during the 2010-2011 academic year.

Michael Strickland, Assistant Professor of Physics, has been named a Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics Scholar for the years 2010-2012. The award provides travel expenses in support of Strickland’s work on thermalization in quantum chromodynamics.

Leo Shingchi Yip, Assistant Professor of Asian Studies, received a grant from the Harvard-Yenching Library. The grant provides assistance and travel funds for his research project on the representation of China in Japanese Noh theatre.

CREATIVE ACTIVITY

On November 19, 2009, For The People, composed by Buzz Jones, Professor of Music in the Sunderman Conservatory of Music, was premiered at the Majestic Theatre as part of the annual Fortenbaugh Lecture. The 40 minute composition consists of a series of arias, recitatives, and rallying songs as well as a gospel and hymn tune. It is based on quotations of Abraham Lincoln, popular songs of the day, and biblical verse. For this staged oratorio, the singers wore period dress, a Victorian dance company performed a quadrille and galop, and a guest artist narrated Lincoln’s speeches and poetry. Kathleen Sasnett, Assistant Professor of Voice in the Sunderman Conservatory of Music, and Jeffrey Fahnestock, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Music in the Sunderman Conservatory of Music, joined New York City bass-baritone Roosevelt Credit as featured artists.

Peter Morgan, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Visual Arts, exhibited his work in the show “50/50/50” at the Eclipse Gallery in Algoma, Wisconsin, from September to December, 2009. The exhibition featured pieces made by fifty artists, from fifty states, who work in fifty different mediums.

Morgan exhibited his piece, “The Hypothetical Prehistoric Giant Wolverine Battling a Polar Bear over a Dead Beluga Whale, on Top of a Glazed Huckleberry Jelly Doughnut” in the Archie Bray Residents Exhibition at the Kolva Sullivan Gallery in Spokane, Washington, in October 2009. This show included works created in 2009 by artists in residence at the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena, Montana.
Jocelyn A. K. Swigger, Assistant Professor of Piano and Coordinator of Keyboard Studies in the Sunderman Conservatory of Music, performed a recital of American solo piano music in the Sears Recital Hall at the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio, on September 15, 2009. The program included music by William Bolcom, Samuel Barber, Jelly Roll Morton, John Adams, and the Ohio premieres of *When One Has the Feet of Wind* by Martin Scherzinger and *American Progressions* by Amy Rubin. Swigger performed a similar program of music, including the New Mexico premieres of Scherzinger’s *When One Has the Feet of Wind* and Rubin’s *American Progressions*, for a lecture-recital of music in Keller Hall at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on September 23, 2009.

Swigger was the concerto soloist with the Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra as part of the Music, Gettysburg! series in the Lutheran Theological Seminary Chapel in Gettysburg on January 17, 2010. Swigger played Beethoven’s fourth piano concerto in G major, Op. 58.


The Faculty Notebook is published periodically by the Office of the Provost at Gettysburg College to bring to the attention of the campus community accomplishments and activities of academic interest. Faculty are encouraged to submit materials for consideration for publication to the Associate Provost for Faculty Development. Copies of this publication are available at the Office of the Provost.

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