



The Sextant

5TH BIENNIAL RACE CONFERENCE

BY JESSICA DIFRANCO, HISTORY MA STUDENT

This past November 9-11th Monmouth University hosted the fifth biennial Interdisciplinary Conference on Race. Founded in 2008- the year of Barack Obama’s election to the presidency- by Drs. Julius Adekunle and Hettie Williams, it has become a conference that is increasingly important to our social discourse. This year the theme focused on exploring race, gender, and leadership in history and global societies. The conference also acted as a call for action in these times of overt racial discrimination and offered ways to combat that. Speakers were welcomed from different parts of the world including South Africa, India, and Nigeria, and students, professors, and other guests alike enjoyed the panel sessions and workshops offered. Notable guest speakers included Dr. Jonathan Holloway, provost at Northwestern University, who served as the keynote speaker. As Dr. Williams noted, “Dr. Holloway’s opening keynote address was delivered to a standing room only crowd in Wilson Hall setting the tone for the event.” Another plenary lecture was given by Dr. Elizabeth Higginbotham, Professor Emerita of Sociology, University of Delaware. Dr. Jennifer R. Scanlon, Bowdoin College, presented a talk on *Until There is Justice*, which she wrote to explore the life of the civil rights leader Anna Arnold Hedgeman and the history of America’s black freedom struggles. In addition, Jondhi Harrell, Executive
(Continued on the next page.)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Carrasco Visit.....2-3
- Public History Minor..... 3
- Photo Album.....4-7
- Club Recap.....8-9
- History Day.....10
- News and Notes11-12
- Works in Progress.....12-13
- Theses.....13
- Senior Seminar/Credits.....14

RACE CONFERENCE, CONTINUED

Director, The Center for Returning Citizens, led a special presentation on leadership and the Center for Returning Citizens, which “offers comprehensive services for prisoners and formerly incarcerated people in the areas of re-entry, pre-entry, and advocacy.” Overall, the conference was a great success and a beneficial opportunity for all who attended. One graduate student, Nick VanDaley, commented, “This year's biannual race confer-

ence reminded us to leave no claim unchecked. In the era of ‘post-truth’ and the Twitter presidency, historicizing statements and ideas will be our only salvation;” while Dr. Williams declared, “This particular race conference was well attended by faculty, students, and staff making it one of the more successful conferences in the series of conferences that we have had thus far.”

DR. DAVID CARRASCO VISITS MONMOUTH

BY NICHOLAS VANDALEY, ANTHRO MA STUDENT

On October 26th, Dr. David Carrasco, the Neil L. Rudenstine Professor of the Study of Latin America at Harvard Divinity School, made a highly anticipated visit to Monmouth University. Dr. Carrasco was brought to Monmouth by the Hispanic Heritage Month planning committee and the Biannual Race Conference to give a special lecture entitled, “Bringing up the Bodies: The Erasure of Mexicans and the Day of the Dead in the U.S.” The lecture aimed to give perspective to both the holiday, the Day of the Dead, as well as the current political and social realities faced by Mexican-Americans. Apart from the lecture, Dr. Carrasco also had several open sessions with students interested in the study of religion, anthropology, and history.

Dr. Carrasco delivered the lecture to a packed audience in Pozycki Hall's auditorium. During the lecture, Dr. Carrasco weaved through the history of Mexican and U.S. relations, the Day of the Dead holiday, and the overt threat faced by

Mexican-Americans by the current presidential administration. This threat Dr. Carrasco proclaimed, “is inspired by the idea and subsequent discourse that Mexicans and Mexican-Americans constitute the single greatest threat to the American national identity.” Dr. Carrasco argued that discourse of this kind thrives when cultures are viewed as inherently unchanging, a problem that anthropology has been tackling for over forty years. It was here that Dr. Carrasco introduced the audience to his concept of the “borderlands,” and how we can use borderlands thinking to problematize and fight against the demonization of Mexicans and Mexican-Americans as “lazy, thieving others,” who threaten the American way. Specifically, we can use the travelling history of the Day of the Dead, from its origins in southern Mexico northward to Mexico City, and now to other countries, as a model for viewing how cultures can adapt and thrive in changing environments.

(Continued on the next page.)

DR. DAVID CARRASCO, CONTINUED

Dr. Carrasco also hosted several sessions with students within the Department of History and Anthropology, and from the larger Monmouth community. In his first session, he discussed his experience as a graduate student at the University of Chicago, studying under giants such as Mircea Eliade, Johnathan Z. Smith, and Charles Long. It was also in this section that Dr. Carrasco asked all the students present for the names of their mothers and their maternal-grandmothers, as well as the languages they spoke. A great array of cultural diversity unfolded through this exercise, and Dr. Carrasco insisted that we learn that people and their families are

often comprised of many different cultures. In the other sessions Dr. Carrasco attended, he gave advice to students and faculty on how to turn learning in the academy into action outside of it. Perhaps most importantly for Monmouth, Dr. Carrasco stressed the importance for the study of religion. He proclaimed vigorously that the study of religion, even in a supposedly secular age, can provide insights into the lived experience of peoples around the world, and shed light on how some of the greatest threats facing humanity today are being solved through religious avenues.

PUBLIC HISTORY MINOR LAUNCHED

The Department of History and Anthropology is pleased to announce that a new minor in public history debuted this semester.

What is public history, you might ask? The National Council on Public History says, "Public history describes the many and diverse ways in which history is put to work in the world. In this sense, it is history that is applied to real-world issues. In fact, applied history was a term used synonymously and interchangeably with public history for a number of years."

Who might be interested in this minor?

Many Department of History and Anthropology students intend to teach at the k-12 level. This minor would certainly help them stand out.

An increasing number of our students, though, will seek employment at public history sites—as cultural resources managers, preservationists, archivists, cura-

tors, oral historians, historic site interpreters, corporate researchers, and more. A minor in public history would give these students some much needed preparation to "do" history outside the classroom. It will prepare them for "life after Monmouth," a core goal of the University's Strategic Plan.

Students generally expect their mastery of new subject matter to be assessed via tests. In the public history minor, they will apply their knowledge to real world projects, truly transforming them from students to public historians.

The minor consists of 15 credits. Required courses are HS 212: Introduction to Public History; HS 312: Oral History; and HS 317: Museum and Archives Management Basics. Students also select 6 credits from an approved menu. See more [here](#).

Contact Professor Ziobro for more information, mziobro@monmouth.edu.

FALL 2017 IN PICTURES



“The best thing about a picture is that it never changes, even when the people in it do.”— Andy Warhol

These snapshots come from our Fall Welcome, held on September 15th. Many thanks are owed to Dr. Heidi Bludau and our Office Coordinator, Cindy Bell, for their work organizing this event. It was a wonderful way to kick off what proved to be a very successful semester!

Top: Most attendees gather for a photo.

Right, Top: Professors Bludau, Rhett, Gorman, Dorment, and Ziobro.

Right, Bottom: Students Nick VanDaley, Anthony Phillips, Ryan Adamczyk, KJ Biggs, and Stephanie DeLaat.



FALL 2017 IN PICTURES



“Photography takes an instant out of time, altering life by holding it still.” Dorothea Lange

Top Left: Dr. Parkin featured prominently in the new edition of MU Magazine! See the full text [here](#).

Top Right: Professor Ziobro welcomes documentary filmmaker Ken Burns to the Superstorm Sandy exhibit she curated at the Monmouth County Historical Association as graduate student / assistant curator Maggie Smith looks on.

Right, Top: Brenna Doherty, Mara Manzar, and Jessica DiFranco volunteered to help local National Register Site, Parker Homestead-1665, with their Fall Festival.

Right, Bottom: Dr. Christopher DeRosa and his Civil War class made a visit to Gettysburg.



FALL 2017 IN PICTURES



“If you see something that moves you, and then snap it, you keep a moment.”— Linda McCartney

Top Left: The MU contingent to the American Anthropological Association conference in DC included Professor Brooke Nappi and MA student Nick VanDaley, shown here "meeting" some of their heroes!

Top Right: Nick VanDaley, fellow MA student Safa Akhtar, and Drs. Heidi Bludau and Nica Davidov pause for the photo at the AAA grad school fair.

Right, Top: Our Oral History students visited the National Guard Militia Museum of NJ to discuss veteran interviews.

Right, Bottom: Alum Professor Meredith Riddle of the School of Education took her Teaching Social Studies 1 class to the NJ Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation.



FALL 2017 IN PICTURES



“Photography helps people to see.” - Berenice Abbott

Top Left: Students in Dr. Delprete’s forensic anthropology class learn the art of facial reconstruction.

Top Right: Dr. Chris DeRosa served as the guest speaker for a local group of Battle of the Bulge Veterans.

Right, Top Left: University Librarian Kurt Wagner helped us welcome local educators to campus for a National History Day teacher training workshop.

Right, Top Right: Dr. Katherine Parkin poses with her new book. See more in “News and Notes.”

Right, Bottom: The Department co-sponsored an oral history workshop with Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region and the Immigration and Ethnic History Society in September.



FAREWELL TO FALL SEMESTER:

HISTORY AND ANTHROPOLOGY CLUB RECAP

BY STEPHANIE DELAAT

UNDERGRADUATE IN HISTORY/POLITICAL SCIENCE INTERDISCIPLINARY WITH SECONDARY & SPECIAL EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HISTORY MINOR

The Club had a variety of activities offered to the students this semester. To start, the Club hosted its annual atlatl toss out on the Great Lawn.



After Halloween, the Club organized its 5th annual candy drive with all the candy being donating to American Recreational Military Services, a local nonprofit that sends care packages overseas to deployed service personnel. Just over 700 pounds of candy was collected! Thank you all again who contributed!

On October 27th, some club members got together and formed a team to compete in the 2nd annual “Monmouth Challenge” trivia competition. The team consisted of Richard Adamczyk (President), Stephanie DeLaat (Vice President and Treasurer), Mario Bertinelli (Secretary), Karville Biggs (Parliamentarian), and Thomas Pri-

oli. The team ultimately won first place. Each team member won a gift card and got to dine with President Dimenna at Doherty House on December 12th.



In early November, a few club members helped the Parker Homestead with a Trailer Cleanout. It was a great experience
(Continued on the next page.)

CLUB RECAP, CONTINUED

to help clean out and inventory many of the historical items the Homestead owns.

On November 29th, the Club hosted a “Broadway History Day” celebrating the musical, Newsies. The meeting included a conversation and trivia contest about the historical and theatrical aspects of the musical, while showing clips from some of the show’s important numbers.

On December 10th, the Club hosted a successful end of semester day trip to New York City. 36 people from both inside and outside of the History and Anthropology Club and Department attended. The trip included time at both the American Museum of Natural History and Times Square. A fun and educational time was had by all who attended!



To end another great semester, the Club put on its 3rd annual interactive Reading Day event at the Monmouth University Library entitled “From Fibers to Fabric.” Pati Githens from the Monmouth County Historical Association educated students

in this workshop about historic spinning, weaving, and dyeing methods. Students got to take a little break from studying to learn more about these methods and got the chance to dye their own scarfs.



The History and Anthropology Club is looking to have even more events this coming Spring. The club plans on continuing general meetings every other Wednesday at 3pm. Some special event prospects include a historical baseball game, an archaeological dig at Parker Homestead, NJ History Day, a history themed game night, a teacher panel discussion, day trips to different museums, and a weekend long trip to Washington D.C. Check your student email and all of the Club’s social media pages for updates. Have a happy holiday season and we hope to see you at the many events in talks for the Spring!



HELP NEEDED FOR HISTORY DAY 2018!

National History Day is returning to Monmouth University and

we need YOUR help as we welcome a few hundred highly motivated young scholars (and potential future Hawks!), grades 6-12, to our beautiful campus. Faculty, staff, alumni, and grad students can all serve as judges. See the below note from New Jersey National History Day for more information.

Greetings potential Judges of 2018 NJ History Day,

For those who are not familiar with this program I wanted to provide for you more details. The History Day competition takes middle- and high-schoolers and gets them excited about history. Each year, the competition provides a theme ("Conflict and Compromise" for 2017-18) which students' projects must address, and it gives them five categories in which to present their work: papers, exhibits, documentaries, websites, and performances.

We believe that History Day has found a magic elixir: it helps students to build vital critical-thinking and communications skills—AND students actually enjoy the process! In their own words, "History Day taught me how to think." "I discovered that research is fun!" "I LOVE history!"

We are writing to ask you to consider serving as an NHD judge. For the student competitors, the opportunity to present their work to aspiring professionals and professionals is the exciting culmination of

their hard work, and it is gratifying for the judges too—it is wonderful to see young historians so engaged with the subject.

What does serving as a judge involve? You'll be asked to attend a two-hour training workshop at one of our regional hosts a few weeks before the competition (if you can't attend the workshop, other arrangements can be made). Those who can't make one of the competitions can volunteer to judge papers or websites, which are judged remotely roughly two weeks in advance of each competition. Those judging exhibits, documentaries, or performances at the competition can expect to be at the competition from @9:00 am to @2:00 pm. Breakfast, lunch, and parking will be provided.

This year's contest dates are as follows:

(Regional) Monmouth University: Saturday, February 24, 2018

(Regional) Rutgers University-Camden: Saturday, March 3, 2018

(Regional) Princeton University: Saturday: March 10, 2018

(Regional) Seton Hall University: Saturday: March 17, 2018

(State) William Paterson University: Saturday, May 5, 2018

You can register to serve as a judge by emailing njhistoryday@wpunj.edu.

We cannot recommend the History Day competition too strongly. It truly helps students to build the skills that are essential for academic and career success in the 21st century. We hope you will join us in supporting this wonderful program.



NEWS AND NOTES

Faculty News:

Dr. Hettie Williams completed her doctoral dissertation in history at Drew University. It is titled, "The Garden of Opportunity: Black Women Intellectuals and the Struggle for Equality in New Jersey, 1912- 1949."

Dr. Walter Greason debuted a new book this semester! Called *Planning Future Cities*, you can see it now [here](#). He was also instrumental in the national planning conference, and was elected to the Board of Directors of the Urban History Association.

Dr. Katherine Parkin published a new book this semester, *Women at the Wheel*. She also published a new blog with NOTCHES, a peer-reviewed, collaborative and international history of sexuality blog that aims to get people inside and outside the academy thinking about sexuality in the past and in the present. Titled "Adult Adoption and Intergenerational Same-Sex Relationships," you can read it now [here](#).

Dr. Nica Davidov, too, welcomed a new book titled *Long Night at the Vepsian Museum: The Forest Folk of Northern Russia and the Struggle for Cultural Survival*.

Retirement hasn't slowed Dr. Brian Greenberg down at all! He recently published [his](#) latest book, titled *The Dawning of American Labor: The New Republic to the Industrial Age*. See more [here](#).

Dr. Thomas Pearson continues to host the World Cinema Series in Pollak Theatre. This Fall, the featured film was *Millie and the Lords*. There are 4 films scheduled for the Spring. All are free and open to the public. See more [here](#).

Department Chair Dr. Richard Veit won the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance 2017 best reference book award for *Envisioning New Jersey: An Illustrated History of the Garden State*, which he authored with Maxine N. Lurie. See more [here](#). He also debuted both a new co-authored book, *South Plainfield in the 20th Century*, and a co-edited book, *Archaeologies of African American Life in the Upper Mid-Atlantic*. See more [here](#).

Professor Kathy Smith-Wenning's Cultural Anthropology class organized a bake sale to aid the children of Juchitan, Oaxaca after the 8.1 earthquake of 9/7/17.

Student News:

Connie Jara published a blog with Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region on her internship with the Monmouth County Historical Association!

Richard Adamczyk published new blog about his internship at the [New Jersey State Museum](#)! You can read it now [here](#).

(Continued on the next page.)

NEWS AND NOTES, CONTINUED

Alumni News:

Eileen Reinhard (MA, '12) published an article with *Quartz*, titled "Rock 'n roll in the library? When music gods go old and grey." Read it now [here](#).

Congratulations to Melissa Sedlacik (BA

'12, MA '14), on her new job with FEMA; and Jessica Ciano (MA '17) on her new position with Allaire Village, Inc.

We want to hear from you, alumni! Email mziobro@monmouth.edu to share your good news.

WORKS IN PROGRESS TALKS HIGHLIGHT OUR ACTIVE FACULTY

The Department of History and Anthropology continued its Research and Teaching Pedagogy Seminar Series this semester. This seminar provides a forum for both full time and part time faculty in the Department of History and Anthropology to present their research in progress and teaching pedagogy to the campus community. The mission of this seminar is to foster awareness about the research interests among faculty within the Department, improve communication about areas of teaching and scholarship, facilitate collegiality across disciplines, and encourage collaborative research opportunities. Presentations generally take place once per month from 1:15-2:15 pm on Wednesdays in HH 342.

If you would like to present in the series, please email the moderator, [Prof. Hettie Williams](#).

Fall 2017 WIP talks were as follows:

Presenter: Dr. Maryanne Rhett

Title: "Harem Peeping and Bloody Scimitars"

Date: Wednesday, 9/27/17

Abstract: Long before the Golden Age of comics, in what I'm dubbing the "Platinum Age" Islam, Muslims, and the Islamic world were an important fixture in U.S. popular culture, particularly comics and related artifacts (between 1880 and 1922). These artifacts -- cartoons, comics, editorial cartoons, serialized advertisements, and other similar materials - allow us to explore how the Islamic world and its people were understood by the American government and people, and how this knowledge production created the framework around which domestic and international relationships were formed. Pulling from American newspapers, journals, and magazines, representing a wide swath of American popular culture and discourse, the reflections and illustrations these artifacts offer are united in their depiction of "Oriental" portrayals, uses, and treatments in an era that is largely assumed to have been one of American un-interest in the region, peoples, or religion. My research during the 2016-17 year helps me to resituate the U.S. not outside of the Islamic world, but within it and by using the everyday medi-

(Continued on the next page.)

WORKS IN PROGRESS, CONTINUED

um of comics to interpret how the U.S. populous conceived of its place vis á vis the Islamic world.

Presenter: Dr. Geoff Fouad

Title: “A study of different survey methods for the development of an experiential education course to map the bottom of coastal lakes in Monmouth County, New Jersey”

Date: Wednesday, 10/25/17

Abstract: Coastal lakes are a distinctive feature of Monmouth County, New Jersey, with potentially large implications for flooding surrounding communities. Many of these lakes are drained by engineered outfalls, and understanding the storage capacity of the lakes is critical for flood control projects. To complicate matters, the storage capacity of lakes can change due to infilling. Therefore, it is crucial to have an accurate estimate of a lake's storage capacity on a regular basis. Estimates of storage capacity are derived from bathymetric surveys of lake bottom, but

bathymetric surveys using hydrographic equipment are costly. An alternative would be to develop a course in which students learn field mapping techniques and collect tape-down measurements of lake depth to estimate storage capacity. First, a study is needed to evaluate if sparsely distributed tape-down measurements can be used to accurately estimate lake storage capacity. In the summer of 2017, the Urban Coast Institute surveyed a series of coastal lakes using a sonar aboard an autonomous boat. These hydrographic surveys served as reference storage capacities of lakes for comparison against simulated tape-down surveys using random points in 50-m grid cells. Storage capacities derived from the two survey methods were compared, and lakes with flatter bottoms may be more suitable for tape-down surveys. Results for the development of an experiential education course were also discussed.

MA THESES DEFENDED IN THE SUMMER AND FALL:

Paula Cannella, “The Interpretation of Marble Artifacts from Joseph Bonaparte's Point Breeze.” Readers: Dr. Veit and Professor Ziobro

Joseph Grabas, “The Promise of Land: African American Land Ownership in Monmouth County, NJ during the Colonial and Antebellum Period.” Readers: Drs. Veit and Campbell

Mike James, “‘Revolution is a Force Stronger than Nature’: A Braudelian Assessment of the Cuban Revolution.” Readers: Drs. Campbell and Rhett

Kathy Kelly, “Resurfacing: Jinn in Western Imagination and Popular Culture.” Readers: Professor Nappi and Dr. Rhett

Todd King, “A Historical Consideration of the Political and Social Impact of the Work of Alan Moore.” Readers: Drs. Parkin and Rhett

Jennifer McCue, “Murals, Walls, and Tourism: Peace-building in Belfast.” Readers: Drs. Karen Schmelzkopf and Alison Maginn

SENIORS SHINE AT SEMINAR

On December 8th, the Department gathered at Magill Commons to hear our Fall 2017 senior seminar presentations. Congratulations to all of our presenters, and thank you to Drs. Bludau and DeRosa for guiding them through the process! As ever, we couldn't have done this event without our wonderful office coordinator, Ms. Cindy Bell. We are pleased to share an excerpt from the program here for you.

1:15	Opening remarks: Michael Thomas, Dean, School of Humanities & Social Sciences
1:30	Alexa Puglisi, "Me First: Why Women are Deciding to Wait to Have Children"
1:45	Jessica Waring, "Impact of First Year Programs on Socialization of New Students"
2:00	Danielle Palomba, "How Technology is Used to Improve Socialization Skills in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)"
2:15	Katlyn Zimmerman, "Socialization of Student Teachers"
2:30	Jessica Arias, "Identity through Instagram"
2:45	Break
3:00	Michelle Ann Caroselli, "Elizabeth I: The People's Queen"
3:15	David M. Glass, "The Peasant Response to Collectivization and Dekulakization"
3:30	Dean Michael McDonald, "The Death of Neutrality: Roosevelt's Burden"
3:45	Patrick J. Duva, "A Seat at the Table: How the Marines Became Permanent"
4:00	Maria Angelica Baratta, "From Oppression to Decadence: How Japan's Wartime Food Crisis Ushered in Kasutori Culture"
4:15	Break
4:30	Stephanie Holtje, "Tourism and Culture: A Detailed Analysis of an Omnipresent Industry"
4:45	Stephanie Barger, "Roadside Memorials: A Cultural Phenomenon"
5:00	Anthony Phillips, "Flight of the Bannerstone"
5:30	Closing remarks: Dr. Richard Veit, Chair, Department of History and Anthropology

1:15	<i>(opening remarks in room 107)</i>
1:30	Hayley R. Hendricks, "Students of Nazi Germany: Educated to Follow, Not to Think"
1:45	Alyssa M. Woeller, "Children of Vietnam: Overlooked during the War, Forgotten in its Aftermath"
2:00	Megan K. Ferguson, "Schoolroom behind the Wire: Education and the Japanese-American Internees, 1942-1944"
2:15	Emely H. Diaz, "Civil War 1965: Dominican-U.S. Relations and their Cold War Repercussions"
2:30	Jack M. Fay, "The Children of Northern Ireland: The Roots of Violence in the Troubles and Beyond, 1969-2011"
2:45	Break
3:00	Meredith Maggi, "Mommy Culture: A Deeper Look"
3:15	Amy C. Mader, "Cold War Anxieties: Gender and Sexual Expression in the Postwar Era"
3:30	Hannah VanNote, "The Gender Gap in STEM Career Interests and Pursuits: a Cultural Analysis"
3:45	Danielle M. Breen, "May God Have Mercy Upon Us : The Great Plague of London, 1665"
4:00	Jodie Longnecker, "Comparison of the USA and Ukraine in Relation to the Opioid Epidemic"
4:15	Break
4:30	Mary K. Healy, "Echoes of Camelot: John F. Kennedy's Legacy"
4:45	Jessica N. Kuck, "No Rest for the Weary: Italy from German to Allied Occupation in the Second World War"
5:00	Erin MacDonald, "Behind the Throne and On It: Women of the 20 th Century British Monarchy"
5:15	Liam Charles Coffey, "From Bear to Cub: The Decline of the Soviet Military, 1964-1991"
5:30	<i>(closing remarks in Room 107)</i>

Did you know? We're on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)!

Click to link right to us.

Get up to date news, networking information, and job postings.

Sextant Credits:

Department Chair: Dr. Richard Veit

General Editor: Professor Melissa Ziobro

Editorial Board: Drs. Heidi Bludau and Katherine Parkin