2012-2013 Saul O Sidore Memorial Lectures

The Drug Wars: Views from the South and North

The Saul O Sidore Memorial Lectures Series was established in 1965 in memory of Saul O Sidore of Manchester, New Hampshire. The purpose of the series is to offer the University community and the state of New Hampshire programs that raise critical and sometimes controversial issues facing our society. All Sidore lectures are free and open to the public.

Go to page 2 for the Spring 2013 Sidore lecture schedule.

Center for the Humanities

Faculty Fellows Lecture Series

We continue hosting our series of informal lectures by recipients of Center fellowships. These lectures provide opportunities to learn about the fellows’ research and encourage discussion in a collegial environment. They also allow the Center to show off some of the intellectual riches it has helped to foster.

Svetlana Peshkova
Assistant Professor of Anthropology

Islamic Education in Post-Soviet Central Asia

Tuesday, February 26, 2013
12:40 - 2:00 PM, Memorial Union Building - Room 302

Svetlana Peshkova’s research examines the everyday lives of local women teachers and leaders in Central Asia’s Ferghana Valley, discovering their feelings about being Muslim and their visions of social change.

Faculty Fellows lecture schedule continues on page 2

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Faculty Fellows Lecture Series

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Stephen Brunet
Associate Professor of Classics
Living in the Shadows of the Past: The Olympics after Eight Centuries
Tuesday, March 19, 2013
12:40 - 2:00 PM, Memorial Union Building - Room 203
By using a catalogue of ancient inscriptions, Stephen Brunet assesses the nature of Greek athletics during the Roman Empire.

Eleanor Harrison-Buck
Assistant Professor of Anthropology
What about that Collapse?: 2012 and the End of the Classic Maya Era
Tuesday, April 30, 2013
3:00 - 4:30 PM, Memorial Union Building - Room 203
Through her archaeological investigations in Belize, Eleanor Harrison-Buck discovers more evidence about the Classic Maya collapse.

Paula Salvio
Professor of Education
To Tarry with Grief: Spontaneous Shrines and the Public Memorialization of Death in Palermo
Tuesday, April 2, 2013
12:40 - 2:00 PM, Memorial Union Building - Room 203
Paula Salvio focuses on the role of public shrines in the anti-Mafia movement in Sicily.

Jose Miguel Cruz
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Politics and International Relations
Florida International University
Transnational Gangs, the State, and Fault Lines of Central American Political Transitions
Friday, February 22, 2013
4:00 PM Memorial Union Building, Theater II

Mark Ungar
Professor of Political Science, Brooklyn College and Graduate Center
City University of New York
Confronting Organized Crime in Latin America: from Drugs to Deforestation
Monday, April 15, 2013
4:00 PM, Memorial Union Building, Theater II

2012-2013 Saul O Sidore Memorial Lectures

The Drug Wars: Views from the South and North
Programs and Project Grants Awarded

William Kempster, Professor of Music, received a grant for research in Australia. He will interview famed Australian choral and instrumental composer, Ross Edwards, and complete a book about Edwards’ work.

Maya Ravindratna, Assistant Professor of English, received a project grant for research on language shift in Indonesia. Her primary goal is to better understand the micro-forces influencing the language shift of youth in the Sudanese-speaking area of West Java.

Next Year’s Saul O Sidore Lecture Series Will Examine the Intersection of Public Health Policies and Individual Freedom

Quarantines, vaccinations, and municipal hygiene are respected tools in the public health arsenal. Invasions of bodily integrity, privacy, and freedom of movement are resultant consequences to these protective efforts. The clash of the needs of public health and the boundaries of personal freedom have occurred again and again throughout our history and will continue to occur based on the public health threats anticipated in the twenty-first century. The intersections between the past and present and the authoritative issues raised by these events warrant further exploration.

—2013-2014 Series Organizers, Marion Dorsey and Rosemary Caron

in Development, Policy and Practice, set this theme for the 2013-2014 Sidore Lecture series. By pooling their combined areas of expertise, they plan a lecture program that will pair past epidemics with current health threats, while examining the impact on individual rights from enforced public health actions such as quarantines and vaccinations. For example, speakers will look at public health interventions during past and current influenza epidemics; examine the identification of “carriers” and its impact on individual liberty by studying “Typhoid Mary” and the more recent SARS outbreak; and discuss compulsory vaccinations from smallpox to the current autism-vaccine controversy.

The series will begin in the fall of 2013.

Marion Girard Dorsey, Associate Professor of History and Core Faculty in Justice Studies, and Rosemary M. Caron, Associate Professor of Health Management and Policy, Core Faculty in the Master’s of Public Health Program and Master’s Program in Development, Policy and Practice, set this theme for the 2013-2014 Sidore Lecture series. By pooling their combined areas of expertise, they plan a lecture program that will pair past epidemics with current health threats, while examining the impact on individual rights from enforced public health actions such as quarantines and vaccinations. For example, speakers will look at public health interventions during past and current influenza epidemics; examine the identification of “carriers” and its impact on individual liberty by studying “Typhoid Mary” and the more recent SARS outbreak; and discuss compulsory vaccinations from smallpox to the current autism-vaccine controversy.

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Meet the 2013-2014 Faculty Fellows

Each academic year, the Center for the Humanities provides an opportunity for junior and senior faculty members to spend a semester away from teaching responsibilities devoting themselves full-time to humanities research. The 2013–2014 Faculty Fellows represent a cross-section of the wide-ranging humanities scholarship at the University of New Hampshire.

Jeffry Diefendorf
Professor of History
Pamela Shulman Professor of European and Holocaust Studies

Jeffry Diefendorf will be writing and completing research for a new book entitled Urban Change and Urban Identity: Cologne, Basel, and Boston, 1920-1965. There will be chapters devoted to topics such as civic architecture like city halls, public festivals, traffic planning, and historic preservation movements. “The goal of this book is to determine what most shapes urban identity—long term continuities, dramatic change, normal changes, efforts to modernize, or efforts to resist change,” Diefendorf writes. He will also collect material for a second book on postwar construction all over Europe and Asia and complete co-editing work on an upcoming book Transnationalism and the German City.

Douglas Lanier
Professor of English
Director, UNH London Program

Shakespearean commemoration in America during three crucial years: 1864, 1916, and 1964, dates in which the birth and death years of Shakespeare (1564 and 1616) were publicly remembered, will be the focus of Douglas Lanier’s fellowship research. Lanier writes, “I will analyze American commemorations of Shakespeare in these three historically resonant years in order to understand how Shakespeare has served as a multivalent component of American public culture. I’ll also build ‘thick histories’ of these years in order to establish the contexts which these American Shakespearean commemorations addressed.” This study will examine not only American orations, ceremonies and monuments dedicated to Shakespeare, but also commemorative performances and editions, commemorative issues of journals or newspapers, and extensive memorabilia.

Josh Lauer
Assistant Professor of Communication

During his fellowship, Josh Lauer will complete his book, The Good Consumer: A History of Credit Surveillance and Financial Identity in America. Lauer states, “The consumer credit bureau is one of the most powerful surveillance institutions in the United States, yet we know almost nothing about it. The Good Consumer examines the development of the consumer credit bureau and, more importantly, the role of such credit surveillance networks in formulating the concept of financial identity – that is, the modern idea of what it means to be a creditworthy, financially responsible person.” Lauer will examine the origins of the modern concept of financial identity and how it has contributed to the economic objectification of American citizen.

R. Scott Smith
Associate Professor of Classics
Coordinator of the Classics Program

R. Scott Smith will examine the work of Seneca in a new book Myth and Mythography in Seneca the Younger’s Tragedies. He explains, “Ten plays have been handed down to us under the name of Seneca the Younger (ca. 4–65 AD). His tragedies once ignored as derivative and therefore inferior to their Greek counterparts, have over the past forty years or so experienced a revival. As a result, we now understand Seneca’s dramatic oeuvre better, and, perhaps more importantly, we acknowledge that his tragedies deserve to be studied as original works of art and not as second-rate copies of greater dramas. But it is just this boundary between derivation and innovation that I seek to explore in my project.”