New Joint Faculty Appointments Announced

Recent searches carried out this year have resulted in the appointment of four new joint faculty positions in the following fields: Architectural Studies, Middle Eastern History, and Theater. All the positions begin in the fall of 2007.

The initial three years of the appointments in Architectural Studies, Middle Eastern History, and Art and Technology are being funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The fourth, a visiting position in theater for sound design, will be supported by a combination of funding from Five Colleges and the hosting institution, the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

These shared positions enable departments to plan for impending retirements or to introduce specialized or emerging areas of study into the curriculum. The joint appointment was among the earliest forms of cooperation developed through the consortium. Three of the new appointments are being shared by two or three institutions; the fourth, in theater, is for a three-year visiting lecturer.

Joint appointments are normally proposed by Five College departments or programs that commit to collaborative planning. Additional positions are expected to be made over the next several years.

ARCHITECTURE

Thom Long has been named Five College Assistant Professor of Architectural Studies. The position will be based at Hampshire College and shared among three campuses: Hampshire, Amherst, and Mount Holyoke Colleges. A practicing designer and architect in Northampton, Long is the founder and creative director of Vision Laboratory, a small, decade-old interdisciplinary design practice.

MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

Nadya Shami has been appointed Five College Assistant Professor of History to teach the social and cultural history of the modern Middle East. This is a tenure-track position, based at Smith, to be shared primarily between Smith and Mount Holyoke in collaboration with the history departments of the other campuses. She currently serves as coeditor of the peer-reviewed Arab Studies Journal and helped produce the documentary film About Baghdad.

ART AND TECHNOLOGY

John Slepian has been appointed to a shared position between Hampshire and Smith College.

More than 70 state, local, and college officials gathered in the newly renovated 11th floor of the University’s Campus Center on April 30 to celebrate the completion of the construction phase of the Five College Fiber Optic Network. The 53-mile network, which "loops" through seven area towns and municipalities and connects the five campuses to each other and to a carrier-neutral facility in Springfield, cost approximately $3.6 million. Owned by the campuses that built it, the high-tech network, which has been called the largest project ever undertaken in the 40-year history of the consortium Five Colleges, Incorporated, will furnish cost-effective access to nearly limitless bandwidth for research and teaching into the foreseeable future. It is also expected to offer new opportunities for economic development to the communities through which it runs.

Several speakers praised the project as a boon to the entire region, since a network of this scale provides much-needed infrastructure rarely found in rural areas. The colleges will be donating “dark fiber” to the towns through which it passes, enabling them to connect to Springfield and from there to the wider world once they have funds to “light” those fibers.

In remarks to the gathering, Northampton Mayor Mary Clare Higgins called the network "the largest project ever undertaken in the 40-year history of the consortium Five Colleges, Incorporated, will furnish cost-effective access to nearly limitless bandwidth for research and teaching into the foreseeable future. It is also expected to offer new opportunities for economic development to the communities through which it runs."

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The roads and bridges of the 21st century” This, she said, “is what we need to make progress happen.” Praising “your leadership,” Higgins turned to the Five College board of directors, all of whom were present for the occasion. State Senator Stan Rosenberg noted that funds for a wider western Massachusetts connection to the high speed Internet are expected to be made available soon. Smith College President Carol Christ, who is currently serving as president of Five Colleges, Incorporated, spoke of the network as another step forward in the communication continuum begun with the telegraph and telephone. All the speakers lauded the role that collaboration had played in bringing the project this far. “Without the support and involvement of many Five College committees, numerous outside consultants, our contractor Adesta, the towns, and the state, this project would never have come to fruition,” observed Donna Baron, director of Information Technology, who oversaw the installation.

“It’s a triumph,” declared University of Massachusetts Amherst Chancellor John Lombardi, who hosted the celebratory event and served as master of ceremonies. “Together we took the risk and created a strong, vital link that will provide advancements only available in more populated areas,” said Lorna Peterson, executive director of Five Colleges, Incorporated. “We all worked together,” she said.

Governor Deval Patrick, who was unable to attend, had sent a letter that was read aloud: “I commend the Five Colleges and their business partners for taking the initiative to bring fiber optic Internet to Western Massachusetts. This partnership is an excellent example of the great strides communities and educational institutions can take together to improve their neighborhoods,” the governor wrote.

Incorporated. “We all worked together,” she said.

Museums10 Awarded Third Grant from Massachusetts Cultural Council

Museums10, a partnership among seven of the Five College museums, the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, the National Yiddish Book Center, and Historic Deerfield, has been awarded a two-year matching grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council’s John and Abigail Adams Arts Program for 2007–08. This year’s award of $75,000 will be used to promote both the Museums10 brand and the upcoming BookMarks exhibition slated for September 2007–January 2008. The amount of the award for the second year will be announced later in 2007.

This is the third consecutive grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council to the museums collaborative, which is facilitated by Five Colleges, Incorporated. In 2004 it received a planning grant, and in 2005 a grant to Museums10 from the Adams Arts Program was used to promote its first joint exhibition, GoDutch! The regionwide festival of Dutch art, culture, and horticulture, the first of its kind in the Pioneer Valley, was a key factor in bringing over 55,000 visitors to the museums from January through August in 2006. Museums10 will launch its second major thematic initiative—BookMarks—in the fall of 2007, in cooperation with such community partners as area booksellers. Taking its inspiration from the Valley’s rich literary heritage, BookMarks will feature an inviting array of exhibitions, readings, performances, book signings, and demonstrations all celebrating the book. Three weekends in the fall will offer programming shaped around three core themes:

The Art of the Book (September 20–23) will feature an exhibition at Mount Holyoke College Art Museum of the work of the Leithauser brothers, who will be on hand to discuss their collaboration. The series continues on October 12–14 with Books Out Loud, which will include a local broadcast of the popular NPR feature “Selected Shorts” and readings by noted authors at venues throughout the Valley. On November 15–18, the focus shifts to From Books to Blogs and Back, a look at where the book is headed in the digital age and beyond. Related exhibitions being mounted by the ten member museums will each celebrate the various ways in which the book has made its mark on human history and development. More information on Museums10 and the fall series BookMarks can be found at www.museums10.org.

New Joint Faculty Appointments—continued from cover

Colleges to further collaboration between their respective arts and science programs and those of the Five Colleges in general. This is a full-time, continuing appointment at the assistant professor level, for which Hampshire College will serve as the home institution with Slepian teaching at Hampshire and Smith. Those serving on the search committee comprised representatives from studio art, engineering, computer science, and cognitive science. Slepian received a BFA in film and television from New York University in 1988 and worked for many years in commercial television and new media before returning to school in fine art. For the past two years, he has served as the Luther Gregg Sullivan Visiting Artist in Digital Media at Wesleyan University in Connecticut.
Vice President of the American Political Science Association and Former Editor of MELUS Named as Five College 40th Anniversary Professors

This spring, the Deans named two additional faculty members as Five College 40th Anniversary Professors: Martha Ackelsberg, professor of government, Smith College; and Joseph T. Skerrett, Jr., professor of English, University of Massachusetts Amherst.

This brings to eight the number of scholars now serving in this honorific capacity. Established in 2005 by the Five College Deans, in consultation with the Five College Board of Directors, to mark the 40th year of the consortium, these positions celebrate Five College cooperation by enabling the schools to share with each other some of their most distinguished scholars.

The title brings with it a number of obligations as well as benefits. In return for being released from teaching one course at their home campuses, during the three-year period of the appointment, 40th Anniversary Professors teach one course a year at a campus other than their own and give a public presentation on a subject related to their research.

Martha Ackelsberg is professor of government and of the study of women and gender at Smith. She has been involved in women's studies both at Smith and in the Valley for over 30 years, including having served as member and chair of the Five College Women's Studies Committee. Her teaching, research, and writing have all centered on the nature and structure of political communities, and, in particular, on patterns of power and participation within them. Professor Ackelsberg teaches courses and seminars in U.S. urban politics, political participation, the politics of wealth and poverty, and feminist and democratic theory. Of particular interest to her is the anarchist movement in Spain, and what place the subordination and emancipation of women had within it. Her research also concerns itself with women's place in the political arena in the United States. She is currently serving as vice president of the American Political Science Association. Professor Ackelsberg will be at the University in the fall semester 2007 to teach "Anarchism and Revolution: The Spanish Civil War." She will be on leave for 2008–09 but will return to serve as a 40th Anniversary Professor for two more years following that.

Joseph T. Skerrett, (right photo) Jr., is a scholar of American literature in the Department of English at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where he has been a faculty member since 1973. The courses he teaches focus on American studies and American fiction from 1865 to 1980. He has published work on Stephen Crane and James Purdy; but the primary focus of his research and writing has been African-American writers. He has contributed scholarly articles to American Quarterly, The Massachusetts Review, Callaloo, and Studies in Short Fiction, among others. His essays on Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, and Toni Morrison have been published or reprinted in volumes edited by Harold Bloom, Kimberly Benson, Marjorie Pryse and Hortense Spillers, and Arnold Rampersad.

From 1987 to 1999 he was the editor of MELUS, the Journal of the Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States. He coedited, with Amritjit Singh and Robert E. Hogan, Memory, Narrative and Identity: New Essays in Ethnic American Literatures (1994) and Memory and Cultural Politics: New Approaches to Ethnic American Literatures (1996). In 2001 Longman published his text-anthology, Literature, Race, and Ethnicity: Contesting American Identities. As a Five College 40th Anniversary Professor, Skerrett has been invited to teach a course at Amherst College in spring 2008.

Early in May, a member of the inaugural class of 40ths—Christopher Benfey, Mellon Professor of English at Mount Holyoke College and a noted scholar of Emily Dickinson—gave the annual Jackie M. Pritzten Faculty Lecture as his public presentation. Benfey's talk, "A Summer of Hummingbirds," attracted an overflow audience to the New York Room in Mary Woolley Hall to hear his interpretation of one moment in history that he characterizes as "the summer of love" based on an excerpted chapter from his forthcoming book.

Last year, two other members of the inaugural class, Austin Sarat, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Jurisprudence and Political Science at Amherst College, and Ilan Stavans, Lewis-Sebring Professor in Latin American and Latino Culture at Amherst College, gave the Pritzen lecture in two parts. Others currently serving as 40th Anniversary Professors are Barton Byg, professor of German and director of the DEFA Film Library at UMass Amherst; Daniel Warner, composer and electronic musician and professor of music at the School of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies at Hampshire College; and David Newbury, Gwendolen Carter Professor of African Studies at Smith College.

Five College Committee for Community Based Learning Celebrates Students, Faculty, and Community Partners

Renzo Mass (right, above), director of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Hampshire County, received this year's annual community partner award from the Five College Committee for Community Based Learning, presented by John Reiff (left), director of the University's Community Service Learning Program. The recognition reception, held on April 30 in the Amherst College Alumni House, also honored several students and faculty members who are "making a difference in their communities."

Pictured above (left to right) are Myrna Breithart (Hampshire College), for her work in Holyoke on community planning; Carol Angus (Five Colleges), for her support of the committee's work over many years; Lucy Malde (Smith College), for her work with area schools; Joseph Krupczynski (UMass Amherst), for his efforts to rescue the historic Skinner Building in Holyoke; and Kristin Bammuller (Amherst College) for her work with the Inside/Out Project, which brings college courses into area jails. Simone Davis (Mount Holyoke College), not pictured, was also recognized for her work with Inside/Out. Three students from each campus were recognized for their leadership and "dedication to civic engagement."

T
Cosmologist Edward R. (Ted) Harrison (left), emeritus Distinguished University Professor of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and a founder of the Five College Department of Astronomy, died on January 29 in his retirement city of Tuscon, Arizona, where he was adjunct professor at the Steward Observatory, University of Arizona. Perhaps best known for his work on the growth of fluctuations in the expanding universe and his books on cosmology for the dedicated layperson, Harrison had broad interests, and published more than 200 papers in space sciences, plasma physics, high-energy physics, physical chemistry, and, principally, many aspects of astrophysics.

Born in London, England, he came to the United States in 1965 as a NAS-NRC se- nior research associate in the Theoretical Division at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. In 1966 he became one of the three founders of the Astronomy Program within the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He also helped establish the Five College Astronomy Department and remained associated with it for 30 years. The Five College Department of Astronomy links the University to the astronomy programs at the four colleges. Harrison is also credited with the growth of the corresponding astronomy graduate program at UMass Amherst, which today enjoys interna- tional recognition. He was a Fellow of the American Physical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Sci- ence, the Royal Astronomical Society, and the Institute of Physics (UK).

Harrison’s longtime friend and colleague, William Irvine, professor of astronomy at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, describes him as “a wonderful writer whose books frequently illustrate points of physics or cosmology with references to poetry or to classical history and philosophy.”

—excerpted from an obituary written by William M. Irvine and Thomas T. Arny, University of Massachusetts Amherst, with Virginia Trimble, University of Maryland

Remembering Ted Harrison

Egyptian Night

More than 60 students and staff of the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages (FCCSWL) gathered on Thursday evening, April 27, for the center’s first festival celebrating Egyptian culture. Held in the Hampshire College Leb- rón-Wiggins Pران Cultural Center, Egyptian Night was coordinated by Maral Charyeva (Smith ’06), one of the new program assistants in the FCCSWL whose position is being funded under a grant to Five Colleges, Incorporated from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. She was assisted by Nahla A. Kader, a visiting scholar from Egypt, who works with the center, and Naglaa Mahmoud, a Fulbright fellow in Arabic, who serves as a mentor to students enrolled in the center’s Five College Mentored Arabic Program.

The festivities included an array of Middle Eastern food, presentations on Egyptian cul- ture, an overview of the history of women’s dress in Egypt, a skit presented in Arabic by the Mentored Arabic I class, a traditional belly dance performed by Hampshire student Simone Stemper, and a display of Egyptian handicrafts.

Under the direction of University Professor of Italian Elizabeth H.D. Mazrocro, the center develops materials and curricula for language learning with an emphasis on the least commonly taught languages and on more commonly taught languages as spoken in Africa, Asia, and the Americas. Its Supervised Independent Language Program (SILP) offers independent study courses in 19 languages: Bulgarian, Croatian (Serbo-Croatian), Czech, Dari (Afghan Farsi), Modern Greek, Hungarian, Indonesian, Norwegian, Persian (Iranian Farsi), Romanian, Serbian (Serbo-Croatian), Slovak, Thai, Twi (Ghana), Turkish, Turkmen, Urdu (Pakistan), Vietnamese, Wolof (Senegal), and Yoruba (Nigeria). SILP is augmented by the Five College Mentored Language Program, which combines independent study with small-group conversation sessions and individual tutorials for Arabic, Hindi, and Swahili. An Egyptian Arabic dialect course joins the Levantine dialect and Modern Standard Arabic courses in fall 2008 as part of the Five College Mentored Arabic Program. All of the Mentored Arabic courses are being developed with the sup- port of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

LG

Classics Symposium Caps Spring Student Forums

Devotees of Classics came together to “share food as well as intellectual nourish- ment” on Saturday, April 28, at Smith College, when the departments of classics sponsored their Five College undergraduate symposium. Ten senior students presented honors papers to an audience of peers and faculty members, with discussions continuing over lunch. The classics symposium was the last in a notable series of events this spring featuring student research or performances (see www.fivecolleges.edu for more details). The students presented papers on a wide range of topics:

- Tyrone Sandoval (HC) - The Electras of Sophocles, von Hofmannsthal, and Strauss
- Elaine Chan (SC) - Printing the Greeks: Technical and Aesthetic Considerations
- Alyssa Hagen (HC) - The Gorgon in Iconography, Ritual, and Personal Religious Practice
- Lindsay Sears (SC) - Etymological Wordplay as a Device to Explain the Ancient Roman Festival Calendar

Pat McGrath (AC) - Allusions to Virgil’s 6th Eclogue in Milton’s Lycidas

Visiting Scholar Nahla A. Kader discusses the evolution of women’s dress in Egypt.

Five College students enjoy sampling varieties of Egyptian food.

Arabic Mentor and Fulbright Fellow Naglaa Mahmoud (front, center) poses with a group of her students in Mentored Arabic level I, following the skit they presented in Arabic.
One of the finest assemblages of this indigenous and unique Revolution features 9 important maps on loan from the Colonial Historic Deerfield, Deerfield: (413) 774-5581, or older. Space is limited. For more information and to make a reservation, call (43) 775-727 or ccarlson@historic-deerfield.org.

Through May 13: "Understanding Maps and the Stories They Tell" Ronald Gren, curator of maps, Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Public Library of Boston, will lead a tour of the Public Library's extensive collection of maps. The tour begins in the Map Room, dedicated in memory of Margaret Quinn Orloske. Free with paid admission.

July 24–August 11 (closed Sundays and Mondays), 10 a.m.–4 p.m. daily (pre-registra...ion or older. Space is limited. For more information and to make a reservation, call (43) 775-727 or ccarlson@historic-deerfield.org.

Through June 7: Earthworks on Paper The interpretation discusses the relation of events in the history of England and France and their clothing, the Costume Room includes displays on the 8th through the 2st centuries. A fine collection of Ethan Allen's images, including many from the rich collection of botanical workshops in the Mortimer Rare Book Room and from the National Geographic Image Collection, to showcase how botanists and botanical artists have sought to describe and illustrate the diversity of the known plant world in an age of constant exploration and discovery.

University Gallery, Amherst: (413) 545-3676, www.umass.edu/gallery

Through June 5: The Experience of Color—Ann Veronica Janssens & Diana Thater An exhibit of photographs of Polish and Eastern Euro...designed in memory of Margaret Quinn Orloske. Free with paid admission.

July 7, 15, 22, 29, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Hall Tavern kitchen: "Open Hearth Cooking" A replica of a New England colonial kitchen: "Open Hearth Cooking" while learning about colonial foods and diet. No reservation is needed. All ages are welcome. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Free admission.

July 24–August 11: "Dig Deerfield Daily!" Free with paid admission.

July 1, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., White Church Community Center: "A Special Supplement of Hands-on archaeology lab. Clean, sort, and identify archaeological "Several of these photographs were taken by singer-songwriter John Robinson, dedicated in memory of Margaret Quinn Orloske. Free with paid admission.

July 31–August 4, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. daily (pre-registration required) "Dig Deerfield Daily!" Free with paid admission.

Mary奎因·奥洛斯克基金会。免费与付费入场。
Summing up the Valley

August 4 and 11, four 40-minute sessions starting on the 8th, beginning at noon: “Family Dog Day” War Dogs, a comic book that is now a popular cartoon in the comic shop on the first floor of the town’s major supermarket. The war and the Holocaust. Cost: $5.


July 9, 10:30 a.m.: “Master class with violinist Kim Kashkashian” Sponsored by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. Cost: $0.


July 12, 1 p.m.: Community Concert with Parker String Quartet Hilltop House in Brattleboro, Vermont. Cost: $5.

July 14, 8 p.m.: Concert by Yellow Barn Participants Buckley Recital Hall, Amherst College, $5.

July 15, 10:30 a.m.: Master class with violinist Martin Chalifour. Cost: $20.

July 17, 7:30 p.m.: “One Night Only” at the center of the city. Cost: $20.

July 18, 7:30 p.m.: “Yiddish Theater—A Love Story” Written and directed by Rebecca Gilman. In upstate New York, well-to-do Bradley and Amy, armed with martini glasses, ice and top shelf liquors, entertain their four grown children to practice their nightly ritual of cocktails before dinner. When their son-in-law, a playwright, announces that his latest work just happens to be based on the family, the defenses bar and jobs flow faster than the bourbon. August 8–11, “The Cocktail Hour,” by A.R. Gurman. Directed by Alex Kuznetsov. In a speakeasy. New York, well-to-do Bradley and Amy. $5.

Music


July 29, 7:30 a.m.: “In Savage Shortland—The Life and Death of Isaac Babel” A talk by dostor de-kor. In the course of his book, Babel’s charmed life and mysterious death. Hailed as the first great Soviet writer, Isaac Babel was actually at one time a product of a violent revolution. Cost: $6.

August 12, 11 a.m.: Mamsel Moly Pocun stars as Khavtshi, a young woman who promises her dying mother that she will take care of her family. She’s busy cooking, cleaning and matchmaking other brothers and sisters—until she discovers the violinist across the courtyard! (100 min.; Hebrew and Yiddish with English subtitles) Cost: $6.

August 19, 12:30 p.m.: Zoots A talk to the folks about the war, family, brother, sister and partner. Toots Shor was many things. Directed by Shor’s granddaughter, this is a provocative living and authentic film portrait of a will-made, unapologetic and quintessentially American man. Cost: $6.

Jazz


July 13 and July 16 and 18 a.m.–3 p.m., Barnum Rectal Hall “Jamsations!” Featuring jazz in July participants. Free admission.

Memorial Hall, Amherst College: (413) 577-5768, www.museum.mcrz.

July 4, 3 p.m. in front of the Old Town Hall: Band Concert Free admission

Sundays, July–August, 2 p.m. “Deerfield Sunday Concert” Chamber music in the lovely Victorian setting of the music room. Admission $5.


July 11, 1:30 p.m.: “Children’s Concert with Parker String Quartet” Hilltop House in Brattleboro, Vermont. Free admission. Cost: $5.


July 19, 8 p.m.: Concert by Yellow Barn Participants Buckley Recital Hall, Amherst College, $5.

July 19, 8 p.m.: Concert by Yellow Barn Participants Buckley Recital Hall, Amherst College, $20.

July 20, 10:30 a.m.: Master class with violinist Martin Chalifour. Cost: $20.

July 21, 10:30 a.m.: Master Class with artist TBA Buckley Recital Hall, Amherst College, $5.

July 21, 8 p.m.: Concert by Yellow Barn Participants Buckley Recital Hall, Amherst College, $5.

July 22, 10:30 a.m.: “I Love the Violin” A talk by Anne Bakker, a Violin teacher. Cost: $20.


July 28: 2 p.m.: “Hot Potatoes” Ethnographer, filmmaker, author, and composer Yitz Stolberg brings together his unique style and his field research in Europe to tell the story of the klezmer ensemble. Vocalist Elizabeth Schwartz has been hailed as “Yiddish Pidl of Klezmer” for her timbres and interpretation. Reservations suggested. Cost: $10.


Theater

Ko Festival at Amherst: (413) 427-6147, box office (413) 542-2277, www.kofest.com. For information on shows and discounts, call (802) 257-024.


July 19–22: Kimberly Akimbo by David Lindsay-Abaire, directed by Ed Golden. Sixteen-year-old Kimberly has progressed. A rare condition causing her body to age more rapidly than it should. When Kimberly and her family live in Scarsdale under dubious circumstances, she is forced to reevaluate her short life while contending with a (00 min.; b&w; Yiddish subtitles) Cost: $5.

August 1–2, 8 p.m.: Concerts by Yellow Barn Participants Buckley Recital Hall, Amherst College, $25.

August 18, 8 p.m.: Concert by Yellow Barn Participants Buckley Recital Hall, Amherst College, $20.

August 20, 8 p.m.: Concert by Yellow Barn Participants Buckley Recital Hall, Amherst College, $20.

August 25, 7:30 p.m.: “One Night Only” at the center of the city. Cost: $20.

August 28, 7:30 p.m.: “In the Mood” A talk by Director Dale van Dusen and other members of the exhibit’s exhibit. In Never Never Land to see.

June 23–24: The Old Deerfield Summer Craft Fair and Art Fest This is the time to re-establish the worldwide fandom of the world. Cost: $5.

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