

Jiyad, Newbury to retire as Five College joint faculty members

For the first time in the decades-long history of the program, Five College joint faculty appointees are retiring. Five College Senior Arabic studies lecturer Mohammed Jiyad, who has been based at Mount Holyoke since 1990, is retiring at the end of this academic year. Catharine Newbury, Five College professor of government and African studies based at Smith, will also be retiring, after eight years.

“Two longtime appointees retiring is a sign of the increasing maturity of the joint faculty program,” said Neal Abraham, Five College executive director.

Each Five College joint appointee has a “home appointment” at one campus, but the costs of the appointment are shared by other campuses which benefit from the teaching, scholarship and service of the faculty member. Joint faculty appointees help maintain and strengthen intellectual communities and curricula throughout the consortium. More than 80 faculty members in at least 33 fields have served in joint appointments since 1973.

Jiyad came to the consortium from the University of Pennsylvania in 1985. He was based

at UMass for five years before moving to Mount Holyoke in 1990. Early on, Jiyad noticed a lack of educational resources for teaching Arabic within its cultural context. This led him to develop software and author a series of textbooks that, as Jiyad explained, enable students to “become involved in situations they might encounter in the future,” which increases their reading and listening comprehension.

After 26 years with the consortium, Jiyad is one of the longest-standing joint faculty appointees and has witnessed much change within the five campuses. In a recent interview with the *Mount Holyoke Alumnae Quarterly*, he noted that interest in Arabic studies grew rapidly after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. “During my time at Mount Holyoke, I was able to create a community of students who had taken my courses, lived or studied in the Middle East or were native speakers of Arabic who studied at Mount Holyoke,” said Jiyad.

For the 2012–2013 academic year there will be five joint faculty lecturers in the Five College Arabic Language Initiative.

Catharine Newbury became a



Mohammed Jiyad



Catharine Newbury

Five College joint faculty member in 2003, when she moved here from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She quickly made herself at home academically, becoming director of the Five College African Scholars Program and book review co-editor of the *African Studies Review* (published by an editorial team drawn from the five campuses), in addition to teaching courses on all five campuses.

Newbury’s research has focused on Africa, exploring issues of democratization, the politics of peasants and women and the politics of violence. In addition to her many articles, Newbury is the author of *The Cohesion of Oppression: Clientship and Ethnicity*

in Rwanda, which investigates the impact of Belgian and German colonial policies that put one ethnic group into a position of agents of the administration. “As a Five College professor, I have enjoyed teaching students on the different campuses, each with its own student culture,” said Newbury. “I thank the students in my classes, whose questions and enthusiasm for learning pushed me to think in novel ways about both my research findings and their practical implications.”

“We are grateful for the combined thirty-four years of service Mohammed and Catharine have brought to the consortium, and to the devotion they have shown to their students,” said Abraham.

Becky Miller, associate professor of music at Hampshire College (left) and Zoe Darrow, a student at Mount Holyoke College, performed on the fiddle during the Inauguration of Jonathan Lash as the sixth president of Hampshire College on April 27. Former U.S. vice president, Nobel Peace Prize winner and Democratic presidential nominee Al Gore spoke at the ceremony, noting his friendship with Lash dating back to his own time as a Tennessee congressman and Lash’s as an attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council. Gore is seated at the far right, and Lash next to him.

Students admitted early, graduate early in accelerated master’s programs

Five College students now have additional incentive to stay in the Pioneer Valley for postgraduate study. UMass Amherst offers accelerated master’s programs that allow students to apply and receive conditional admission for select programs as early as the junior year. Students from all five

campuses are eligible for eight of the programs, which range from a master of science in cellular and molecular biology to a master of arts in linguistics.

Also known as “five-year” or “4+1” programs, students in an accelerated master’s program begin work toward a master’s degree

while they are still completing their undergraduate coursework. This system enables participating students to fulfill the requirements of a graduate degree in a shorter amount of time than it would take through normal sequential enrollment, without reducing the number of courses or amount of content required for the degree. The Five College advantage is that students remain residents at their undergraduate institutions while taking some graduate courses during their first four years and without additional

graduate tuition costs during those four years.

Accelerated master’s programs benefit students, departments and institutions and have become increasingly popular among U.S. universities in recent years. The UMass Faculty Senate approved the implementation of the program structure in May 2010, with the first students enrolling in fall 2011.

For more information, visit umass.edu and search on “accelerated master’s.”

—Janna White SC ’07

Consorting — continued

Continued from cover public transport that links college to college. If it’s 7:50 a.m. in Northampton, it must be the 39E to Mount Holyoke, but if I miss the direct shuttle, I can catch the 7:55 and, via Hampshire, make my way from NoHo to MoHo in time for a 9 a.m. meeting.

The PVTAs systems that connect the five campuses take time to master, and during my hours commuting among campuses I’ve learned a great deal from the students and community members who ride the buses. Some of them are taking advantage of the classes offered at schools other than the ones where they are pursuing their degrees. Some live in one town but attend college or work in another. Lectures, meetings, internships, volunteer work and social events draw others to take public transportation. In the Pioneer Valley, the bus system, much like the fiber optic network the consortium also provides, becomes connective tissue that allows for movement and flexibility.

The Five College consortium works in similar ways when it comes to the administrative and academic infrastructures at each of the five institutions. I’ve observed how the “power of five” permits students on all campuses to have access to what they could never have through their home institutions alone, and I’ve also



Rosemary Feal

witnessed the labor-intensive process involved when six administrators (one from each of the five campuses and the consortium office) must iron out the wrinkles in arrangements such as joint faculty appointments, research centers and student learning opportunities. Then there are issues I could never have imagined until I sat in on Five College meetings: the Cold War-era bunker that houses the shared library book depository, for example, and the ins and outs of the compliance and risk-management programs, not to mention the Hawley Bog.

I’m amazed at how much Neal Abraham knows about the histories and cultures of the five campuses and the consortium. His guidance in helping me navigate the system has saved me from getting bogged down

(groan) in Hawley or elsewhere in the Pioneer Valley. What a wealth of shared resources I’ve found here, and what an amazing group of leaders I’ve met—all of them willing to share their knowledge with me. Among the most memorable experiences I’ve had: marching in the academic procession for the inauguration of Biddy Martin as president of Amherst; accompanying Mount Holyoke President Lynn Pasquerella to hear Vespers in the Old South Church in Boston; observing Carol Christ, president of Smith, as she addressed the “First Scholars” at a tea she gave in her home; and going with Neal to meet Holyoke’s young

new mayor for a discussion of consortium-city collaborations.

Consorting among the five campuses is not so different from what a student experiences in her time here. I’ve learned so much, I’ve made amazing connections and I’ll always consider these campuses a home to which I may return. Like a grateful alumna, I intend to invest in the institutions that have invested in me. When I attend commencement ceremonies in May, I’ll half-expect to flip the tassel on my cap along with the graduates!

Rosemary Feal is the executive director of the Modern Language Association.

Queer studies — continued

Continued from cover explore separate academic fields in addition to their majors. Similar to minors, Five College certificate programs enable focused study in areas that campuses often can’t offer alone.

Students in the new program will take coursework in critical race and transnational studies, the arts and humanities and the social and natural sciences. With this breadth, students will examine the relationship between sexual and gender identities, experiences, cultures and communities in a wide range of historical and political contexts.

“We are fortunate to have assembled here in the valley a large

concentration of people interested in queer and sexuality studies,” says Morgan. “The certificate program will build alliances among people and institutions, between academic disciplines and with friends and allies in the Pioneer Valley and beyond.”

The program is currently open to students from Smith, Mount Holyoke and Hampshire. “There has already been tremendous student interest in the program within just a few weeks of its approval, so I expect it to be quite popular,” Morgan says.

For more information about the program, visit www.fivecolleges.edu/sites/queerstudies.

—Janna White SC ’07

New certificate program approved in queer and sexuality studies

The Pioneer Valley has long had a national reputation as a welcoming environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people. It is also a hub for academic research on the experiences of the LGBT community. But as Genny Beemyn, director of the Stonewall Center at UMass, explained, although courses on the topic are extremely popular with students, area colleges have not offered a formal course of study in the field—that is, until now.

The newly approved Five College Queer and Sexuality Studies Certificate Program provides “a fabulous opportunity for students to take advantage of the myriad resources available in the Five Colleges,” says Lynn Morgan, professor of anthropology at Mount Holyoke and an organizer of the program.

Queer and Sexuality Studies is one of 14 Five College certificate programs that allow students to

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Some 300 new students from all five campuses came together in January at UMass’ Fine Arts Center to enjoy food, take in student performers and get to know each other. The orientation social was a joint effort of the Five College Student Coordinating Board and campus orientation directors to introduce entering students to the consortium.



Consorting in the Pioneer Valley

Rosemary Feal

As an American Council on Education Fellow during the 2011–12 academic year, I’ve had the good fortune to be at Five Colleges, Incorporated, with its executive director, Neal Abraham, as my primary mentor. Most ACE Fellows go to a single host institution, so it’s been a special privilege to have five individual campuses and the consortium’s office as my base for studying higher education. We ACE Fellows also spend a good part of the year on the road, visiting other campuses and attending seminars, retreats and national meetings.

I’m a specialist in Spanish-language and Latin American literature, so I’m used to immersing myself in regional cultures. The first thing to learn as an ACE Fellow is that each institution has its own culture, one that is

embedded in geography, history, socioeconomic and so on. It wasn’t too difficult to grasp the cultural differences among the five campuses, but what has been harder to apprehend is the way the consortium is woven into the fabric of these distinguished institutions. Where to start?

On the bus, of course. Careless in the Pioneer Valley, I’ve come to depend on my mobile phone to indicate when I can catch the consortium-subsidized

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NewsBreaks is published by Five Colleges, Inc., 97 Spring Street, Amherst, MA 01002
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MIKE WEDEBROS

UMass student is recipient of the second annual Lorna M. Peterson Prize

UMass student Andrew Fallon has been named the recipient of the second annual Five College Lorna M. Peterson Prize for his work on a research project examining the effects of Tropical Storm Irene on the Connecticut River basin. Fallon completed the work as a student in the Five College Coastal and Marine Sciences Certificate Program.

The Lorna M. Peterson Prize is \$500 awarded annually to an undergraduate student who has displayed exemplary work as part of a Five College program. It is named for the former executive director of Five Colleges, Incorporated, and honors her commitment to collaboration as a means of advancing understanding and expanding opportunity.

Fallon said he will use the money to continue his research on sediment transport associated with extreme tropical storms.



Peterson Prize winner Andrew Fallon of UMass, former Five College executive director Lorna Peterson, Five College executive director Neal Abraham and Peterson Prize finalist Naya Bricher of Smith College.

“Andrew is a natural collaborator and leader among his peers,” said Steven Petsch, interim director of the Coastal and Marine Sciences Certificate Program, in

his nomination letter. “His past efforts and future goals are firm examples of the mission of the Lorna Peterson Prize.”
Smith College studio art stu-

dent Naya Bricher was named a finalist for her artwork in the Five College Advanced Studio Seminar.

—Janna White SC '07

Curricular Innovations projects funded

Thirteen projects, with topics ranging from digitally mapping Paris to disabilities studies and from sustainability studies to feminist scholarship, have been funded by the Five College Curricular Innovations project in the first year of the grant. Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the goal of the four-year, \$1.5 million project is to initiate efforts to improve the educational experience throughout the consortium with two programs. Awards to projects in the digital humanities support use of digital technologies and resources to advance teaching the humanities. Awards under a “bridging program” fund projects to build and strengthen connections between the liberal arts and professional education.

The 10 digital humanities awards support course development, workshops for instructors,

developing online archives and supporting student research. Most involve collaborations among faculty members from two or more campuses.

Dana Leibsohn, a longtime art history professor at Smith College, has been appointed to direct the Five College Digital Humanities program, in a role that includes recruiting, selecting, supporting and celebrating projects proposed by mixed teams of faculty members and information technologists at the five institutions.

Each of the three supported bridging projects selected in the first round of awards builds on either existing collaborations or long-term student and faculty interests. They are:

Architectural Studies and Architecture
Building on a longstanding

collaboration, faculty members from UMass, Smith, Mount Holyoke and Hampshire will develop team-taught courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, creating closer connections between programs at the colleges and the university’s accelerated master’s program in architecture.

Bridging Liberal Arts and Professional Training for Public Policy and Social Innovation: A Proposal to Advance Curricular Collaboration

This project will develop a team-taught course in public policy and connect graduate students in the Smith School for Social Work and the Isenberg School of Business with undergraduate courses in related fields across the consortium and students interested in social entrepreneurship.

Environment and Sustainability Across the Five Colleges: Making Connections and Enriching the Curriculum

Faculty members from Smith, Amherst, Mount Holyoke and UMass will expand ongoing work to link undergraduate coursework in the environment and sustainability with the university’s professional programs in sustainability science, landscape architecture and regional planning, and environmental conservation.

For more information about the Digital Humanities program, contact Dana Leibsohn at dleibsoh@smith.edu. More information about the bridging program and Digital Humanities is available at fivecolleges.edu/rfp or by contacting Nate Therien at ntherien@fivecolleges.edu.

Mount Holyoke’s O’Shea leaving consortium for New College presidency

Donal O’Shea, Mount Holyoke College’s vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty and an enthusiastic collaborator within the Five College consortium, has been named the next president of New College of Florida, in Sarasota. O’Shea, who is also Mount Holyoke’s Elizabeth T. Kennan Professor of Mathematics, credits the consortium with getting him to the Pioneer Valley in 1980.

“Five Colleges was my first experience at Mount Holyoke,” he told *Five Colleges Ink* in 2009. “I came here because I was at a



Donal O’Shea

conference and I met a mathematician from Smith—I didn’t know

where Smith was at the time—and another guy from Hampshire who said, ‘Hey, the valley’s great. Mount Holyoke’s got a job. You should interview.’ I loved the department, but it was the other schools that were always on the radar.”

O’Shea’s participation in the consortium only increased when he became dean of faculty in 1998. During his time on Deans Council, O’Shea has been considered a champion of women’s studies, joint faculty appointments and the Center for the Study of World Languages.

“The Five College consortium is much stronger for having had Don’s leadership, imagination and vision,” said Five Colleges executive director Neal Abraham. “He worked tirelessly to encourage new collaborations and to support continuing projects.”

“This is such a vital environment,” said O’Shea. “I can’t tell you just on the faculty side how many things Five Colleges made possible. I think I was a Five College citizen before I was a Mount Holyoke one in many ways.”

—Kevin Kennedy

Five College faculty members teach U.S. foreign policy to international scholars



Scholars from 17 countries attended a U.S. State Department-sponsored foreign policy institute at Amherst College over the winter.

Javier Corrales

Scholars from around the world converged on Amherst College in January and February to learn about U.S. foreign policymaking from Five College faculty members. The locally based Institute for Training and Development (ITD), directed by Mark Protti, was awarded a grant from the State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs to host a study tour for international rela-

tions scholars. The purpose of the tour was to expose the scholars to U.S. national security policymaking and help them improve their teaching and writing about U.S. foreign policy. I served as the academic director for this program.

The 17 participants, each from a different country, spent most of their first four weeks on the Amherst campus and at ITD facilities in the town of Amherst. During the last two weeks of the

regional powers. In a typical session, a Five College faculty member would spend approximately 1 hour developing a topic, followed by 30 minutes of questions and answers. There is no question that offering the superb faculty and facilities of the Five Colleges is one of the reasons we won this grant.

In addition, participants were invited to do some original writing. Jon Western, Five College associate professor of international relations at Mount Holyoke, organized writing workshops that resulted in several essays being chosen for a Five College project on the study of a post-hegemonic world that Western and several colleagues are organizing.

“The program has deepened in all of us our understanding of U.S. national-security policymaking,” said Josh Wineera, a defense and security teaching fellow at Massey University. “I will take it back to New Zealand to share with my colleagues and fellow friends and incorporate it in my new curriculum for my strategic studies students.”

Javier Corrales is a professor of political science at Amherst College.

Spring arts festivals honor student work and promote collaboration

Student artists came together for a series of events this semester that celebrated the year’s top student works in poetry, theater, film and music from across the five campuses.

Students participated as entrants, judges and audience members in the annual festivals, which provided a unique opportunity for the students to meet and collaborate with their peers and gain recognition in the wider Pioneer Valley community.

Word! Multicultural Theater, an annual presentation of student scripts dealing with issues of race and diversity, was held in March

and featured works by Hampshire, Smith and Amherst students.

The Five College Film and Video Festival awarded cash prizes for the year’s top student films in a variety of categories, from narrative to dance on camera. Matt Hartzler, of Amherst, earned the grand prize for his documentary film *The Process*.

At the Five College Choral Festival, held at Smith in February, vocal groups from each campus took the stage separately before everyone joined to perform a final piece featuring some 450 voices.

Each campus elected two student poets to read their original

works at the 10th Annual PoetryFest in March. The poems were assembled into a collection that was presented to every participant and audience member.

The first-annual Five College Sixty Second Video Contest challenged students to produce a video portraying life on their campus and in the consortium in just one minute. Prizes were awarded for best campus videos and Hampshire student Ben Goldsmith won best-in-show for his entry *At any given moment at Hampshire College*.

—Janna White SC '07

The following Five College student symposia and arts festivals took place during the 2011–12 academic year:

- Africa Day, at Smith College
- Anthropology Symposium, at Mount Holyoke College
- Asian/Asian American Studies Conference, at UMass Amherst
- Chinese Speech Contest, at Mount Holyoke College
- Ethnomusicology Symposium, at Amherst College
- Five College Water Symposium, at UMass Amherst
- Geology Symposium, at Amherst College
- Indigenous Peoples Symposium and Powwow, at UMass Amherst
- Japanese Speech Contest, at Smith College
- Middle East and South Asian Studies Conference, at Amherst College
- Physics Symposium, at Amherst College
- PoetryFest, at UMass Amherst
- Student Film and Video Festival, at Smith College
- Word! Multicultural Theater, at Amherst College

Students gain experience and contacts at Five College symposia

At this year’s Five College Water Symposium, faculty members and students gathered to hear presentations of student projects that explored how global water systems affect such diverse areas as medicine, art and religion. Hampshire College student Marushka Rogan, who helped organize the event, explained that its goal was to “create an interdisciplinary understanding of water and

to forge positive connections toward research.”

Each year Five College symposia of this kind, featuring student papers, posters and performances, are held in a variety of disciplines. Attendees are able to network with peers who share interests and gain valuable experience presenting their work in a public setting.

In many cases, the annual symposia also give students and faculty members a chance to

hear from well-known figures in their fields. The Five College Undergraduate Anthropology Conference featured as keynote speaker Shannon Service, an award-winning journalist currently on assignment for NPR in Asia. Opening the events of last fall’s Africa Day 2011 was Dr. Joseph Sebarenzi, former speaker of the Rwandan parliament and survivor of the Rwandan genocide.

Peterson is the David B. Truman Professor of Asian Studies at Mount Holyoke College and a Five College 40th Anniversary Professor who began her career in the valley as a Five College joint faculty member. She is the author of several books, including the forthcoming *Serfoji II biography, Scholar-king of Tanjore: Serfoji II and the Shaping of Indian Modernity*.

—Janna White SC '07

Eclectic 19th-century Indian king the focus of Five College Pritzen Lecture

King Serfoji II was a colonial-era Indian monarch with quite a diverse set of interests—think poetry, medicine, botany and zoology, among other subjects—who participated in the height of 19th-century intellectual exchange between India and Europe. Mount Holyoke Professor Indira Viswanathan Peterson explored the history of this fascinating king during her 2012 Five College Jackie Pritzen Lecture entitled “Scientific Dialogues in Colonial India: King Serfoji II and the European Enlightenment,” which she delivered in March at Mount Holyoke.

The Jackie Pritzen Lectures are named for a longtime member of the Five College staff who worked with many faculty groups during her 25 years with the consortium. The lectures pay tribute to the central role that faculty members play in furthering cooperation among the five institutions.

“The scientific career of Serfoji II strikingly illuminates the dynamic participation of Asian sites and individuals in the global and circulatory histories of the production of modern knowledge,” said Peterson. Her lecture examined Serfoji II’s many initiatives and highlighted how his practice of science was both a product of the Enlightenment and unique to the king and his culture.

—Janna White SC '07