The 05-06 academic year, the fifth year of Jim Chandler’s first term as Director of the Franke Institute, was marked by a major conference, “The Fate of Disciplines,” a culminating event in a conversation about scholarship and its present directions. With an audience from around the world, the discussion we have been having for some years now at the University of Chicago about how knowledge is organized and about shifts and transformations in that organizational structure should wend its way into the thoughts and work of humanists all over the world.

One significant shift in the disciplines of the Humanities is their closer connection of late to the arts. Faculty members and graduate students seek to link the work of scholarship to active aesthetic practice. Here too the Franke Institute has provided a source of leadership, with a quarterly Cinematheque for discussion of a film, and an increasing number of sterling presentations by artists such as painter William Kentridge, the documentary makers of Kartemquin Films, and jazz musician Chris Potter.

During the 2006-07 academic year, Françoise Meltzer, the Mabel Greene Myers Professor of Comparative Literature, Romance Languages & Literatures, the Divinity School, and the College, served as Interim Director of the Franke Institute. After a year of leave, Jim will return to undertake a second five-year term in the fall of 2007. We are lucky to be able to continue to draw on his resources, as we were also exceptionally lucky to draw on the creativity and leadership of Françoise during this past year.

Franke Institute programming for 2006-2007 revealed that several years’ worth of collaborative efforts are now bearing fruit.

Continued on page 20

From 2003 through 2006, the Franke Institute’s Mellon Project, “New Perspectives on the Disciplines: Comparative Studies in Higher Education” investigated how disciplines divide up not only our worlds of knowledge but also our geographic worlds through their distinctive practices and methodological approaches. In four conferences, including most recently, “The Fate of Disciplines,” and several dozen visiting scholar lectures and workshop discussions, the Mellon Project addressed questions about disciplines, studies, and their interrelations with an eye to re-envisioning comparative studies in higher education as a new field. The “Arts of Transmission” conference (May 2004), in conjunction with a special issue of Critical Inquiry, examined relationships among ideas and cultures of communication, past and present. “Disciplinary Orders: Objects, Methods, Problems” (May 2005) examined six disciplinary subjects from cross-cultural perspective. “What is Science Studies?” (November 2005), organized by the Mellon Project’s Postdoctoral Fellow, John Tresch (Ph.D. 2003), investigated the emergence, boundaries, and teleologies of science studies.

The Center for Disciplinary Innovation (CDI) is a direct result of work begun during the Mellon Project on the Disciplines.

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THE FRANKE INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES STAFF

James K. Chandler
Director
Françoise Meltzer
Interim Director (2006-07)
Margot Browning
Associate Director
Mai Vukcevich
Assistant Director
Rachel Drew
Public Affairs Specialist
Harriette Moody
Project Coordinator

GOVERNING BOARD
2005–07
Leora Auslander
History
Dipesh Chakrabarty
South Asian Languages & Civilizations
Martha Feldman
Music
Jonathan Hall
Classics
Françoise Meltzer
Romance Languages & Literatures
Richard Neer
Art History
Candace Vogler
Philosophy
Wu Hung
Art History
Lawrence Zbikowski
Music

THE FRANKE INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES

FRANKE FELLOWS

While each year’s group of fellows is newly in residence, some traditions carry over from year to year. One tradition is the diversity of the disciplines and subjects represented by each year’s fellows, since the program is open to any topic or theme and since the group of humanities faculty and doctoral students also includes a faculty fellow from the humanistic social sciences.

Another tradition has resulted from the group’s interdisciplinary character: each fellow not only introduces his or her chapter or article that everyone has read for that day but also places this work-in-progress in its disciplinary context, providing a thumbnail sketch of the fellow’s discipline that is oriented to his or her project. This disciplinary overview proves both challenging to do for the fellow who is providing it and useful for the other fellows’ grasp of the project.

Over the course of a year, the fellows discover ties with one another’s specializations, and an ongoing conception of current practices and issues develops for the humanities. Led by the Institute’s Director, Jim Chandler, the fellows’ meetings provide an evolving site for participants to make contacts outside their departments and beyond their areas of expertise.

AFFILIATED FELLOWS

With the support of the Whiting Foundation, a second fellows’ group was inaugurated a year ago at the Franke Institute that is composed of Whiting, Mellon, and Harper doctoral fellows in the humanities. Led by Associate Director, Margot Browning, it is also an interdisciplinary group with participants from various humanities departments. This community includes several members who are now humanities faculty members at the University who once held Whiting doctoral fellowships while pursuing their Ph.D. degrees.

Focused on dissertation chapters or imminent job talks, the group of affiliated fellows provides a special audience for one another in which questions and issues can arise free from programmatic constraints or departmental boundaries.

Standing (from left to right): Krista Van Fleet, Daniel Morgan, William Bubelis.

Seated (from left to right): Wing Sze Leung, Chiara Fabbian, Clinton Tolley, Margot Browning (Associate Director).
THE FOLLOWING PROFILES ARE REPORTS ON RESEARCH PROJECTS BY THE FELLOWS.

2005 - 2006

William S. Bubelis
Doctoral Candidate, Classics

The Sacred Treasurers of Athens, 700-300 B.C.

I examine the religious and political circumstances in which the Athenians developed particular magistracies and concepts in order to manage the property owned by their gods. I explore a particular kind of treasurer as a window onto the views and behavior of wider society.

Robert Buch
Assistant Professor, Germanic Studies

The Legacy of Laocoön

My book explores the fascination with violence evident in the works of a number of late twentieth-century writers and artists. Representations of suffering and pain have long been an important paradigm of aesthetic reflection. The works I examine stand in an uneasy relationship to that tangled poetological and iconographic tradition.

James Conant
Professor, Philosophy

Mild Mono-Wittgensteinianism

My monograph represents an effort to advance a debate currently raging among scholars of Wittgenstein's philosophy between those who advocate so-called "resolute readings" of Wittgenstein and those who deplore them. The monograph seeks both to correct certain misunderstandings of such readings, while discouraging advocates of such readings from accepting the terms of the debate as defined by the critics.

Daisy Delogu
Assistant Professor, Romance Languages & Literatures

Theorizing the Ideal Sovereign: Royal Biography in the Late Middle Ages

Vernacular kings’ lives represent a crucial voice in the sorts of debates that preoccupied political theorists of the late Middle Ages. I seek to recuperate the political content of royal biographies and to situate them in their historical, political, cultural and literary contexts.

Chiara Fabbian
Doctoral Candidate, Romance Languages & Literatures

Study of a Forgotten Sense: The Sense of Smell in Italian Literature and Culture (XVIII-XX centuries)

The anthropological, political, and cultural code of the sense of smell interacts with literature’s own system of signs and meanings. Sociological methods assist in clarifying the connections between the sense of smell and perceptions of the other in terms of class, sex and race.

Gregory Golley
Assistant Professor, East Asian Languages & Civilizations

When Our Eyes No Longer See: Realism, Science and Ecology in Japanese Literary Modernism

My project examines the relationship between early twentieth-century developments in science and a “realist” belief-system underlying the work of three representative Japanese modernist writers. I draw connections between this peculiar form of realism and the rise of early ecological thinking in Japan.

Continued on page 4
Rajeev Kinra
Doctoral Candidate, South Asian Languages & Civilizations
**Secretary-Poets in Mughal India and the Ethos of Persians: The Case of Chandar Bhan ‘Brahman’**

My dissertation concerns Chandar Bhan ‘Brahman,’ the celebrated Indo-Persian literateur and chief of the Mughal secretariat under Emperor Shah Jahan. I situate the complex cultural package expected of such imperial Mughal officials within the broader trajectory of South Asian literary, political, and socio-religious history.

Wing Sze Leung
Doctoral Candidate, Comparative Literature
**To Feel Is To Have Judged: Kant’s and Wordsworth’s Responses to Rousseau**

I argue for a fundamental affinity between Kant’s *Kritik der Urteilskraft* and Wordsworth’s *The Prelude*. I examine how feeling in both works makes possible the congruence between the structure of the mind and that of the world, playing a role in shaping moral agents’ capacity to make judgment.

Wei-Cheng Lin
Doctoral Candidate, Art History
**Building a Sacred Mountain: Buddhist Monastic Architecture in Mt. Wutai during the Tang Dynasty, 618-907 C.E.**

My dissertation reconstructs a contextual history of the Foguang Monastery, the second oldest timber-frame structure, and asks how the building as a material embodiment of its religious meaning can be uncovered and understood.

William Mazzarella
Assistant Professor, Anthropology
**Cannibals Enjoy Comedies: Apprehending the Cinema in Late Colonial India**

This book deals with the colonial government’s efforts to understand, regulate and exploit the cinema as an affect-intensive medium.

Daniel Morgan
Doctoral Candidate, Cinema & Media Studies
**Cinema, Aesthetics, and the Films of Jean-Luc Godard at the End of the Twentieth Century**

I provide an interpretation of a series of films by Godard, exploring their engagement with some of the traditional questions of aesthetics. Godard’s work of this period offers a compelling exploration of the aesthetic resources of film and demonstrates the value of aesthetics as an analytical framework for thinking about film.

Deborah Nelson
Associate Professor, English Language & Literature
**Tough Broads: The Morality of Style**

My project investigates the anti-sentimentalism of a group of women intellectuals, writers, and artists. Their work forms a counter-tradition to the late twentieth century, positioned between the expressive authenticity often associated with the progressive social movements of the post-World War II era and the ironic detachment thought characteristic of postmodernism.

Karen Pagani
Doctoral Candidate, English Language & Literature
**Forgiveness and the Age of Reason: Fénelon, Rousseau and Staël**

My dissertation examines the extent to which the popularization of deist methodology during the eighteenth century challenged more traditional understandings of forgiveness.

Joti Rockwell
Doctoral Candidate, Music
**Lonesomeness, Drive, and the Genre of Bluegrass Music**

I study bluegrass music, a contemporary American genre with roots in Appalachian folksong and early twentieth-century country music. I focus on the connections between the genre’s most central ideas as articulated by performers, critics, and fans, and the sonic elements of musical performance.

Allen Romano
Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow
**The Craft of Origins: Explanatory Myths in Ancient Greek Poetry**

I analyze the function of explanatory myths in ancient Greek poetry and drama from 800 to 300 B.C.E., focusing on the rhetoric specific to explanatory myths and studying the use of such myths from the earliest surviving examples in Hesiod and the Homeric Hymns.

Adam Rzepka
Doctoral Candidate, English Language & Literature
**The Production of Theatrical Experience in Early Modern England**

My project reconfigures the question of audience response during the rise of London’s public theaters in the middle and late sixteenth century. I examine the emergent theater’s transformative interventions in normative structures of affect, imagination, and memory.

James T. Sparrow
Assistant Professor, History
**Americanism & Entitlement: Authorizing Big Government from the New Deal to the Cold War**

My book looks at the cultural formation of state power at the grassroots. I explain how the U.S. quickly reconciled a powerful, centralized national government with foundational notions of individualism, rights, and anti-statism that had long framed American political culture.
Justin Steinberg
Assistant Professor, Romance Languages & Literatures

Accounting for Dante: Urban Readers and Writers in Late Medieval Italy
I investigate Dante’s response to his earliest readership. Dante’s first readers were often merchants and notaries, members of a new political class whose uses and abuses of Dante’s early lyrics shape in various ways his subsequent work.

Clinton Tolley
Doctoral Candidate, Philosophy

Kant’s Conception of Logic
My research concerns the historical and conceptual foundations of Immanuel Kant’s theory of logic. I also demonstrate Kant’s influence upon contemporary debates in the philosophy of logic and mathematics.

Ebru Turan
Doctoral Candidate, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations

The Sultan’s Favorite: Ibrahim Pasha (1523-1536) and the Making of Ottoman Universal Sovereignty in the Reign of Sultan Suleyman
Focusing on Ibrahim Pasha, I reconstruct the historical context in the early sixteenth-century Mediterranean world that prompted the creation of the universal monarchy ideology.

Krista Van Fleit
Doctoral Candidate, East Asian Languages & Civilizations

People’s Literature and the Construction of New China, 1949-1966
I study the literature and culture produced in China between the founding of the People’s Republic and the beginning of the Cultural Revolution. I examine the ways in which authors, artists, and critics worked to create a body of socialist mass culture that shaped the ideals and passions of a new Chinese citizenry.

Alina Wyman
Doctoral Candidate, Slavic Languages & Literatures

The Task of Active Empathy: Scheler, Bakhtin and Dostoevsky
My dissertation explicates Mikhail Bakhtin’s early philosophy in light of Max Scheler’s personalist phenomenology. Analysis centers on the largely neglected concept of active empathy, which is revised with the help of Scheler’s relevant theories of empathy and Christian love.

Franke Fellows, 2006-2007

Francoise Meltzer (Director), Lina Steiner, Jeannie Britton, Tahera Qutbuddin.

Paroma Chatterjee
Doctoral Candidate, Art History

Narrating Sanctity: Byzantine and Italian ‘Vita’ Icons
My dissertation is a study of the development and functions of a specific visual formula for imaging saints in the Byzantine Empire and Italy in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.

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Continued from page 5

**Vanessa De Gifis**  
Doctoral Candidate, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations  
*Qur’anic Features of Political Rhetoric during the Career of al-Ma’mun (r. 198-218/813-833)*  
I analyze several diplomatic letters and speeches composed in the contexts of civil war, frontier raids, and domestic policy-making, demonstrating how structural, lexical, and thematic features of the Muslim scripture have been borrowed and integrated into articulations of personal ideologies.

**Kesha Fikes**  
Assistant Professor, Anthropology  
*Emigration from Cape Verde: The Spatial Production of Local Cape Verdean Difference, 1863-1975*  
My academic year with the Franke Institute enabled me to complete a manuscript entitled *Managing African Portugal* (forthcoming, Duke University Press), while beginning another entitled *The Racial Politics of Emigration from Cape Verde, 1863-1975*.

**Paul Fischer**  
Doctoral Candidate, East Asian Languages & Civilizations  
*The Formation of the Shi Zi*  
I analyze the formation of an early Chinese masters text called the *Shi Zi*. My aims are to describe its content and problematic transmission, argue for its authenticity, discuss the history of the authorship paradigm most applicable to it, and analyze its intertextual relations to other texts like it.

**Oren Izenberg**  
Assistant Professor, English Language & Literature  
*Being Numerous: Poetry and the Ground of Social Life*  
My work addresses a set of interdependent problems in the history, theory, and politics of Anglo-American poetry. I challenge the nearly unanimous critical consensus that would divide poetry into two warring camps, and argue that a more coherent poetic history might begin by offering, not a revisionary account of what “poetry” is: less an aesthetic discourse whose goal is the production of a special kind of object, than an occasion for re-grounding the concept and the value of the person.

**Heather Keenleyside**  
Doctoral Candidate, English Language & Literature  
*A New Breed: Humans, Animals, and Other Characters in Eighteenth-Century British Literature*  
I look at how and when different writers turn to animals in order to rethink categories of being and belonging, to question the constitution of persons, things, and the relations between them.

**Benjamin Nelson**  
Doctoral Candidate, Romance Languages & Literatures  
*Tending to Empire: The Spanish Pastoral Novel and Its Reflection upon Imperial Spain*  
My research deals with Hispanic literatures of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, primarily how writers of a specific genre were cognizant of the sociopolitical status of Spain and its empire and how they inscribed their commentaries of Imperial Spain into their literary texts.

**John Paulas**  
Doctoral Candidate, Classics  
*Diet of the Learned*  
My dissertation work focuses on Athenaeus’ *Deipnosophists*, an eccentric multi-volume exploration of dining culture written in Greek around the turn of the third century A.D. I investigate the effect on readers of the text’s propagation of literary learning about objects of desire, their purveyors, and consumers.

**Courtney Quaintance**  
Doctoral Candidate, Romance Languages & Civilizations  
*Masculinity and Collective Identity in a Sixteenth-Century Venetian Salon*  
My dissertation focuses on the literary salon of Domenico Venier, the most important center for intellectual exchange in Venice at the middle of the sixteenth century. I argue that Venier and his cohort inscribed and publicized their identities as members of an elite writing collective.

**Tahera Qutbuddin**  
Assistant Professor, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations  
*Classical Arabic Oratory: The Khutba from Pre-Islamic through Umayyad Times*  
I analyze the speeches and sermons of the Arabic speaking peoples from pre-Islamic through Umayyad times. I present the main features of the genre—sources, authenticity, terminology, types, functions, themes, style, structure, and setting—through four simultaneous, chronologically developing, cultural gridlines: pagan to Islamic, tribal to imperial, nomadic to urban, and oral to written.
Seth Richardson  
Assistant Professor, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations  

Studies in Late Babylonian History  
This project has two goals - one, to write a period history of the Late Old Babylonian period under the successors of Hammurabi; two, to undertake an examination of the causes for the kingdom’s collapse. The work not only looks at the textual evidence for the end of the period, but positions historical questions about that time.

Eric Slauter  
Assistant Professor, English Language & Literature  

A Cultural History of Natural Rights in America, 1689-1789  
I explain how a complex set of practices and customs was consolidated in the early eighteenth century under the rubric of rights, why ordinary people came to believe they had rights, and how revolutionary rights declarations inadvertently petrified what many took to be an evolving process of the discovery of new natural and civil rights.

Lina Steiner  
Assistant Professor, Slavic Languages & Literatures  

Toward Universal Responsiveness: The Evolution of the Russian Novel and Mythology from 1812 to Dostoevsky  
My book explores the Romantic origins of the nineteenth-century Russian novel as a patriotic response to the national identity crisis provoked by the Napoleonic wars, as well as the subsequent transformation of the “Russian idea” into a supranational (or cosmopolitan) ethical and aesthetic doctrine of “universal responsiveness.”

James Sullivan  
Doctoral Candidate, Classics  

Thucydides Politicus: Revisiting the Political Dimension of Thucydides’ History of the Peloponnesian War  
I spent this year completing my dissertation, which seeks to reinterpret the political critique of the internal politics of the Athenian democracy in Thucydides’ History.

Charles Tepperman  
Doctoral Candidate, Cinema & Media Studies  

Communicating a New Form of Knowledge: Tracing the Amateur Cinema League and its Films (1926-1954)  
My project analyzes the first wave of amateur film culture in North America, and focused, in particular, on amateurs who moved far beyond the “point-and-shoot” aesthetic of home movies, and understood moviemaking as way of creatively negotiating their experience of modern life.

Bulbul Tiwari  
Doctoral Candidate, South Asian Languages & Civilizations  

Maha Multipedia: The Mahabharata reworked in mixed media, for a 9 night performance  
My dissertation is a digital site, one that presents the skeletal script (along with illustrative and background information) of a multimodal, critical-creative re-telling of the great Hindu tale, the Mahabharata.

Rebecca Zorach  
Assistant Professor, Art History  

The Virtual Tourist in Renaissance Rome: Printing and Collecting the Speculum Romanæ Magnificentiae  
My work followed several different tracks: first, the development of a digital database presenting the images and information on them; second, the preparation of an exhibition of these prints and related books to take place in the fall at the Regenstein; and finally, an interpretive research project on claims made for the broader civic value or “public utility” of prints in the late Renaissance.

Ilya Yakubovich  
Doctoral Candidate, Linguistics & Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations  

Sociolinguistics of the Luvian Language  
Luvian is an Indo-European Anatolian language closely related to Hittite and known from cuneiform tablets and hieroglyphic stelae that were found in Turkey and Syria and date back to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. My research reconstructs the status and function of this language in ancient Anatolian society.
“African Americans tend to make music and then move on, but if you talk about the blues, jazz, and hip hop, you’ve got to talk about ragtime too. I hear ragtime in hip hop everyday. During Black History Month, everybody wants to talk about how George Washington Carver made the peanut. What about Scott Joplin?”

Reginald Robinson, 2004 Recipient of MacArthur “Genius” grant from “Rediscovering Ragtime: An Evening with Reginald Robinson”

The Institute organizes conferences on interdisciplinary topics in the humanities including themes and issues drawn from the social sciences that are co-sponsored with University of Chicago centers, departments, workshops, and divisions, as well as with other institutions. During 2005-2006, the Institute co-sponsored sixty-six conferences, exhibits, and other events. In 2006-2007, the Institute co-sponsored forty-one conferences, exhibits, and other events.

2005-06 Conferences

**October 6-8**
“New Perspectives on Daoist Religion”

**October 7-8**
“Wagner’s Parsifal and the Performance of Culture”

**November 11**
“What is Science Studies?”

**November 11-13**
“India: Implementing Pluralism and Democracy”

**November 12-13**
“Midwest Seminar for the History of Early Modern Philosophy”

**November 18**
“Towards a New Americas Studies: Hemispheric Perspective”

**November 18**
“History and Literature”

**February 5-7**
“Cinema and Modernity”

**February 12-13**
“Art, Society, and Politics in Modern Hebrew Letters”

**February 17-19**
“At the Edges of Empire”

**February 24-25**
“The Cultural Study of the Middle Eastern City”

**February 24-25**
“Translation in Colonial and Ethnic Studies”

**February 25**
“Scientifica-mente: The Symbiosis of Literature and Science in Italian Culture”

**March 3-4**
“How to Read. What to Do. The Future of Poetry Criticism”

**April 1**
“Cinema Studies’ Historical Turn: The Influence and Implications of Early Cinema”

**April 6-8**
“The 42nd Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society”

**April 7**
“Science in Nineteenth-Century Britain”

**April 7-8**
“Devotion Before Print: Art, Literature, Liturgy and Prayer in the Christian Middle Ages”

**April 7-8**
“I Simposi Joan Coromines: Catalan Studies at the University of Chicago”

**April 10**
“French-American Week of Contemporary Poetry: Discussion on Translation”

**April 22**
“Race-ing the Academy: Racialized Dreams, Myths and Realities”

**April 28**
“Adam Zagajewski: From A to Z”

**April 28-29**
“The Fate of Disciplines”

**May 12**
“Forms of Formalism: Poetics, Play and Prescription in Modern and Contemporary French Literature”

**May 12-13**
“The Twenty-First Middle East History and Theory Conference”

**May 12-13**
“Language Trust”

**May 13**
“Reinventing the Past: Antiquarianism in East Asian Art and Visual Culture”

**May 19-20**
“Scalar Meaning”

**May 25-26**
“World Jazz / Jazz Worlds”

**May 27-28**
“Pleasure and Passion in Chinese Literature”
2005-06 Lectures

September 30
“Transfiguring Suburbs: The Design of the American Neighborhood”

October 3
“Joyce: Voices from The Dead”

November 8
“Empire and Democratic Anxieties in Victorian Britain”

November 17
“Going Kinetic: Moving Beyond Biopower”

January 21
“Plato vs. Simpsons”

January 31
“Journey to the Moon”

February 2
“Photography and the Opening of the American West”

February 3
“Protecting Cultural Heritage: International Law after the War in Iraq”

February 14
“The Expectation of the Unexpected in the Total Aesthetic Fact”

February 15
“Selection, Individuation, Transindividuation”

February 15
“America’s Greatest Lawyer: Abraham Lincoln in Private Practice and Public Life”

February 22
“Writing History of Science for the General Public”

April 7
“Panoramas and Stereographs”

April 10
“Discussion on Translation”

April 11
“Balkan X: eXposition, eXperience, eX-yugoslavia”

April 12
“The Ignorance of Chicken, or Who Believes What Today”

April 17

April 19
“Why seemingly Small Things Matter So Much”

April 19
“The Uses and Misuses of Violence”

April 24
“Who Wrote That? Computational Approaches to Authorship and Style”

May 2
“Finding Agency in a Time of AIDS: Reflections on Religious Health Assets from Field Findings in Southern Africa”

May 17

May 23
“Balkan Epic: Song and Poetry Between Past and Present”

May 24
“Balkan Cultural Identity: Concepts and Realities”

Continued on page 10

Co-sponsors for 2005-06 & 2006-07 Events and Programs

At the University of Chicago: Ancient Societies Workshop, Anthropology of Europe Workshop, Arts Planning Council, Biological Sciences Collegiate Division, Catholic Studies Program, Center for Comparative Constitutionalism, Center for East Asian Studies, Center for East European, Russian & Eurasian Studies, Center for Health Administration Studies, Center for Interdisciplinary Research on German Literature and Culture, Center for International Studies, Center for Latin American Studies, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Center for South Asian Studies, Center for the Study of Communication and Society, Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture, Chicago Center for Contemporary Theory, Chicago Review, Classical Language Society, The College, Committee on Cinema & Media Studies, Committee on Jewish Studies, Committee on Southeast Asian Studies, Comparing Colonialisms Workshop, Contemporary Philosophy Workshop, Council on Advanced Studies, Court Theater, Critical Inquiry, Cultural Policy Center, Environmental Concerns Organization, 18th and 19th Century Cultures Workshop, EthNoise!, Film Studies Center, Fishbein Center for the History of Science & Medicine, Franciscan Center, Graduate School of Business, Graduate Music Society, Green Campus Initiative, Julie and Parker Hall Endowment for Jazz and American Popular Music, Norman W. Harris Fund, History & Philosophy of Science Workshop, Human Rights Program, Humanities Division, International House, International House Global Voices Lecture Program, Islamic Art & Artifact Workshop, Marjorie Kolver Visiting Fellow Program, Lichterman Fund of the Anthropology Department, Martin Marty Center, Mass Culture Workshop, Medieval Studies Program, Middle East History & Theory Workshop, Middle East Students Association, Minority Graduate Student Association, Office of Minority Student Affairs, New Testament & Early Christian Literature, Nicholson Center for British Studies, Oriental Institute, Philosophy of Mind Workshop, Poetry and Poetics Program, Office of the Provost, Rhetoric & Poetics Workshop, Russian Studies Workshop, Smart Museum, Social Sciences Division, Social Sciences Graduate Student Committee, Social Structures & Processes in Urban Space Workshop, South Asian Language and Area Center, Student Government Finance Committee, UChicago Arts Grant, University of Chicago Press, Weissbourd Fund for the Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts

External co-sponsors: American Academy of Arts, University of California at Berkeley, American Center for Visual Studies, American Research Institute in the South Caucasus, Art History Department at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago Humanities Festival, Chicago Theological Seminary, City Design Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Comissió Any Coromines, Consortium for Humanities Centers and Institutes, Cultural Services of the French Embassy, Ecole Francaise D’Extreme-Orient, Fetter Family Fund, Government of Catalonia, Herman Greene, Institut Ramon Llull, Instituto Italiano de Cultura, Italian Cultural Institute of Chicago, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, National Science Foundation, Northwestern University, Presidential Arts Fellows Program, Public Square, Otto L. and Hazel T. Rhoades Fund, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Smart Family Foundation, Social Science Research Council, John Templeton Foundation, Abdulkader Thomas, University of Illinois at Chicago, Univesite de Paris – Sorbonne, University of Tel Aviv’s Philosophy Department, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities and Philosophy Department at Vanderbilt University

Faculty Organizers

Anthropology, Art History, Cinema & Media Studies, Classics, Conceptual & Historical Studies of Science, Comparative Literature, Creative Writing, Divinity School, East Asian Languages & Civilizations, Economics, English Language & Literature, Environmental Studies, Germanic Studies, History, Human Rights, Jewish Studies, Law School, Music, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations, Philosophy, Political Science, Romance Languages & Literatures, Slavic Languages & Literatures, Sociology, South Asian Languages & Civilizations, Visual Arts
“The rich variety of issues collected here under the rubric of the problem of non-discursive thought reveal the problem’s protean nature. By following this issue through strikingly varied intellectual inflections, disciplinary settings, and historical contexts, the papers and the lively discussions that they sparked both pressed the problem toward greater contextual specificity and brought into view lines of questioning that would have been closed off by both a narrower and less unified rubric.”

— “The Problem of Non-Discursive Thought from Goethe to Wittgenstein,” Sawyer Seminar 2006-07
The Franke Institute is co-sponsoring the following conferences during the coming year. For up-to-date information about humanities events on campus, please visit the institute’s Web page at: http://franke.uchicago.edu

**Autumn**

(De/Re)Constructed Identities in Iberian and Luso-Hispanic Literatures

The Elements of Style

Anxiety, Urgency, Outrage, Hope

**Winter**

Religion in French Literature and History

The Return to Presence

**Spring**

Climate Change and Social Change in Siberia

(What) Poetry Narrates

Phonologization

The Franke Institute and the Chicago Humanities Festival co-presented “Copycat,” a collaborative panel discussion concerning plagiarism, at the Art Institute of Chicago. Jonathan Lethem, Richard Posner, Lawrence Weschler, and Franke Institute Director Françoise Meltzer joined forces to conduct a hard-hitting critical conversation in a public forum and to connect scholarly concerns to the broader domain of intellectual property.
2005-2006 was the culminating year of the three-year project on “New Perspectives on the Disciplines: Comparative Studies in Higher Education.” Sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, it consisted of a series of lectures and workshop discussions with speakers and participants spanning the disciplinary gamut.

Examining both individual disciplines and their ever frequent points of intersection, the Mellon Project reflected the era of interdisciplinarity and questioned the future of both established disciplines and developing fields of study in light of historical, political, institutional, and ethical issues.

The three years of programming concluded with an international conference entitled “The Fate of Disciplines.” Conference panels addressed such issues as the nature of an individual discipline and the interchange of objects of study between traditional and newer disciplines. The conference reestablished the unifying conceptual themes from the Project’s three-year term: case studies and comparative studies of disciplines, ‘studies’, and area studies.

Francesca Bordogna  
Northwestern University  
Charting Knowledge: William James and Philosophical Trees

Mr. Cole situated interdisciplinarity in post-war politics.

Michèle Lamont  
Harvard University  
Interdisciplinarity as a Problem

Ms. Lamont shared material from her book *Cream Rising: What Defines Excellence in the Social Studies and the Humanities*, a sociological study of the difficulties in defining and evaluating academic success.

Kristin Ross  
New York University  
Historicizing Untimeliness

Ms. Ross discussed her recent research which examines the reworking of disciplinary borders brought on by revolutionary events in 1968 France.

Dava Sobel  
*Paper Planets*

“WHAT IS SCIENCE STUDIES?”

During the fall 2005 quarter, the Mellon Project organized a one-day conference entitled “What is Science Studies?” This conference centered around the burgeoning field of science studies, as an intermediary discipline between the humanities and the natural sciences. Sponsored in part by the Fishbein Center for the History of Science and Medicine, the conference was organized into three panels featuring distinguished scholars from across North America. Recordings of the conference are available at http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/institute/mellon/events.html

 Panels

The Emergence of Science Studies as a Discipline
Karin Knorr Cetina, University of Chicago
Robert Brain, University of British Columbia
Emily Martin, New York University

Science Studies and its Boundaries
Ken Alder, Northwestern University
Katherine Hayles, University of California, Los Angeles
John Carson, University of Michigan

Teleologies of Science Studies
Trevor Pinch, Cornell University
Thomas Gieryn, Indiana University
Adrian Johns, University of Chicago
Joseph Rouse, Wesleyan University

INSTANCE THE DETERMINATION
An on-site installation at the University of Chicago
Helen Mirra, Harvard University

Instance the determination, a public art project by Helen Mirra created in conjunction with the Mellon Project’s “Fate of Disciplines” conference, takes the form of thirty brief segments of text, each painted directly on the wall in locations dispersed throughout the academic buildings on the main quadrangle at the University of Chicago campus. These texts are derived from indexes created by Mirra from two books by authors closely connected to the University of Chicago and the city of Chicago: John Dewey’s Experience and Nature (1929) and Jane Addams’ Newer Ideals of Peace (1907).

By turning the index form into a kind of poetry, as well as taking it off the page, Mirra produces an interaction between the practices of art and the practices of scholarship. The installations are located in stairwells and hallways in order to be encountered through ordinary, everyday movement around the University. For an interactive project map, a recording of Helen Mirra speaking about “The Disciplines and the Arts,” and the installation’s press release, please visit: http://instance.uchicago.edu

John Dewey, Experience and Nature.
“The Fate of Disciplines” was at once the culmination of a three-year project on “New Perspectives on the Disciplines: Comparative Studies in Higher Education” and the conference for the annual meeting of the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI). It brought together scholars from across the globe, representatives from humanities institutes as diverse in size and scope as those from institutions in Australia, Canada, Finland, Ireland, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, and the United States, as well as over a hundred University of Chicago faculty, staff, and students from a wide range of fields in the humanities and social sciences.

Over the course of two days, in five panels of speakers, the conference explored the relations among disciplines and studies by asking how we might conceive of disciplines — are they static and atomic? — and how we might conceive of their relations to each other: do disciplines comprise a dynamic system, a changing set of relationships? The first panel attacked head-on the question of definition: what is a discipline? The second and third panels offered pairings of older and newer disciplines that stand in some significant relation to each other: Philology and Cinema-Media Studies; Religious Studies and Science Studies. The conference addressed these disciplines in themselves and, by way of specially invited commentators, in relation to each other. The penultimate panel looked at the ensemble of disciplines in systematic terms. The final panel, by way of the Helen Mirra art installation commissioned for the conference itself, took up a question, more insistent in recent years, as to the relation of the disciplines and the practice of fine arts. “The Fate of Disciplines” was sponsored by the Franke Institute for the Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and supported by a UChicagoArts grant from the Arts Planning Council. Recordings of the conference are available online at: http://franke.uchicago.edu

Panels

Session 1: What is a Discipline?
Robert Post, Yale University; Debating Disciplinarity
Judith Butler, University of California, Berkeley; Critique, Dissent, and Disciplinarity
Moderator: Dipesh Chakrabarty, University of Chicago

Session 2.1: Cinema & Media Studies
Tom Gunning, University of Chicago; Depth of Field: Selective and Deep Focus in Film Studies
Gertrud Koch, Freie University; The Dispositive of Cinema as Foundation for its Studies
Moderator: Yuri Tsivian, University of Chicago

Session 2.2: Philology
Sheldon Pollock, Columbia University; Future Philology? The Fate of a Soft Science in a Hard World
François Hartog, Ecole des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris; The Double Fate of the Classics
Moderator: Richard Neer, University of Chicago

Session 2.3: Cinema-Media Studies and Philology
Commentary: Miriam Hansen, University of Chicago
Moderator: Robert Pippin, University of Chicago

Session 3.1: Science Studies
Mario Biagioli, Harvard University; Putting Fate Back in the Humanities, With Help From Science Studies
Lorraine Daston, Max Planck Institute, Berlin; Science Studies and the History of Science
Moderator: Adrian Johns, University of Chicago

Session 3.2: Religious Studies
Amy Hollywood, Harvard University; Theology and the Study of Religion
Saba Mahmood, University of California, Berkeley; Religious Signs and Secular Reason: Tracing a Fracture Across Disciplinary Divides
Moderator: Bruce Lincoln, University of Chicago

Session 3.3: Religious Studies and Science Studies
Commentary: Rivka Feldhay, Tel Aviv University
Moderator: Arnold Davidson, University of Chicago

Session 4: Disciplinary Systems / Disciplinary Economies
David Wellbery, University of Chicago; The General Visits the Library: Discipline and Complexity
Marshall Sahlins, University of Chicago; The Conflicts of the Faculty
Moderator: Lisa Wedeen, University of Chicago

Session 5: The Disciplines and the Arts
Helen Mirra, Harvard University; Instance the determination
W. J. T. Mitchell, University of Chicago; Interdisciplinarity and Visual Culture
Bill Brown, University of Chicago; Counting
Moderator: Laura Letinsky, University of Chicago

The image chosen for the conference’s poster appears opposite. It is the title page of Marganta Philosophica by Gregor Reisch (Freiburg: Johanne Schottus, 1504).

Courtesy of Special Collections Research Center of the Regenstein Library, The University of Chicago.
How do the humanities relate to public life? Presented by University faculty members in lectures on their current research, these forums at the downtown Gleacher Center explore special topics in all areas of the humanities, as well as other domains of knowledge.

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THE HUMANITIES IN PUBLIC LIFE, AT THE DOWNTOWN GLEACHER CENTER

2005–06

W.J.T. Mitchell
Gaylord Donnelley Distinguished Service Professor, Departments of English Language & Literature and Art History, and the College

Martha Feldman
Professor, Department of Music and the College
The Castrato’s Tale

David E. Wellbery
LeRoy T. & Margaret Deffenbaugh Carlson University Professor, Department of Germanic Studies, and the College
Kafka’s Wish

Alison Winter
Associate Professor, Department of History, Committee on the Conceptual & Historical Studies of Science, and the College
The Forensic Self: A Prehistory of the Memory Wars

Sheila Fitzpatrick
Bernadotte E. Schmitt Distinguished Service Professor, Department of History and the College
Looking Back on the Soviet Union from the Twenty-First Century

2006–07

Janice Knight
Associate Professor, Department of English Language & Literature and the College
The Devil in the Damsel: Reading Women and the Bible

Richard Theodore Neer
Associate Professor, Department of Art History and the College
Brilliant Bodies, Diaphanous Robes: Surface and Depth in Ancient Greek Sculpture

Phillip Bohlman
Mary Werkman Professor, Department of Music, Committee on Jewish Studies, and the College
The Silence of Genocide

Larry Norman
Associate Professor, Department of Romance Languages & Literatures, Committee on Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities, and the College
On Ancients and Moderns

James K. Chandler
Barbara E. and Richard J. Franke Professor, Department of English Language & Literature, Committees on the History of Culture, Cinema & Media Studies, and Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities, and the College
Sterne’s Sentimental Journey: How Humanities Scholarship Matters

Michael Sells
John Henry Barrows Professor, Divinity School
Gifts and Grants, 2005–07

On the first or second Wednesday of the month, twice every quarter, University alumni and friends gather for a public lecture by a University faculty member at the downtown Gleacher Center. For the eighth year, these lectures for the Chicago Humanities Forum, and the receptions that follow, have been funded by the Visiting Committee to the Division of the Humanities Centennial Endowment.

The Humanities and the Arts are supported at the Institute by the ADELYN RUSSELL BOGERT ENDOWMENT FUND, which sponsored the following events about visual arts, film, and theater.

Autumn 2005

Wagner’s Parsifal and the Performance of Culture, an interdisciplinary conference held on Wagner’s opera, drawing participants from the fields of musicology, music theory, cultural history, and literary criticism.

On Note(s), an exhibition of drawings and doodles from the notebooks of Department of Visual Arts graduate students.

Spring 2006

Cinema Studies’ Historical Turn: The Influence and Implications of Early Cinema, the third annual Graduate Cinema conference was comprised of presentations on cinema historiography, specifically in relation to early cinema’s status in film history, theory, and practice.

Reinventing the Past: Antiquarianism in East Asian Art and Visual Culture, a symposium reexamining the role of the study and collection of antiquities and that of people who engaged in antiquarian activity in East Asia, spanning from the ancient to the modern.

Winter 2007

Midwest Graduate Music Consortium, an annual conference including a keynote address by a noted scholar, papers on music-related topics presented by graduate students, and a concert of new music by composition students from different institutions.

Spring 2007

Animation and the Cinema, the fourth annual Graduate Cinema Conference bringing together graduate students working on issues of historiography, technology, and aesthetics in relation to animation studies, and the question of animation in current film and media theory.

Symposium: Islamic Ornament, a full-day symposium featuring leading scholars discussing the history, use, and meaning of ornament in Islamic art.

UPCOMING FORUMS, 2007-08

October 3
Jacqueline Goldsby
Abstract Is As Abstract Does: African American Poetry and Painting during the 1940s and 1950s

November 14
Wu Hung
What is ‘Contemporary Chinese Art’?

February 6
Lawrence Zbikowski
Birds, Spinning Wheels, Horses, and Sex: Painting Images with Music

March 5
TBA

April 9
TBA

May 7
TBA

To reserve a seat, please call 773-702-8274.
Big Problems Curriculum in the College

http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/other/interopp/index.shtml

The University’s College is renowned for its common core curriculum in humanities, social sciences, biological sciences, and physical sciences with which undergraduates begin their degree programs. Yet how can a program of courses also provide a transition from college to whatever comes next — at a job or in graduate school?

The Big Problems program, coordinated by the Franke Institute and the College with a grant from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, provides a capstone curriculum for third- and fourth-year students. These elective courses offer students opportunities to broaden their studies from their departmental major by focusing on a “big problem”—a matter of global or universal concern that intersects with several disciplines and affects a variety of interest groups. By their nature, “big problems” call for interdisciplinary teamwork, yet their solutions may not be obviously or finally determinable.

In keeping with the multiple perspectives needed to study a big problem, these capstone courses are team-taught by faculty members from different disciplines, engaging the students in the dialogue and debate between the instructors. Further extending this discussion, a visiting speaker gives a public lecture and teaches a class for each course.

For information about Big Problems courses, see the program’s listing in the “Interdisciplinary Opportunities” section of the College catalog. Please find the URL at the top of the page.

On the course, Is Development Sustainable?

“I am leaving this course with more questions than when I started and with the terrifying realization that there will never be enough answers. Thank you, and please keep mind-expanding courses like this coming!”

— Fourth-year College Student

For information about Big Problems courses, see the program’s listing in the “Interdisciplinary Opportunities” section of the College catalog. Please find the URL at the top of the page.

C O U R S E S  A N D  L E C T U R E S ,  2 0 0 5 – 0 6

Course
Alison Boden, Divinity School
Margot Browning, Franke Institute for the Humanities
Terror, Religion and Aesthetics

Course
John Haugeland, Philosophy
William Wimsatt, Philosophy
Boundaries, Modules and Levels

Course
Daniel Brudney, Philosophy
Farr Curlin, Medicine
John Lantos, Pediatrics
Medicine and Society: Things, Bodies, Persons

Course
Salikoko Mufwene, Linguistics
William Wimsatt, Philosophy
Biological and Cultural Evolution

Course
Katia Mitova, Social Thought
David Orlinsky, Human Development
Aspects of Love

Course
Sonja Pieck, Environmental Studies
Theodore Steck, Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology; Environmental Studies
Is Development Sustainable?

Course
Katia Mitova, Social Thought
David Orlinsky, Human Development
Romantic Love: Cultural and Psychological Perspectives

Course
Melvin Rothenberg, Mathematics
Ron Baiman, Economics at UIC
From Neo-Liberalism to Neo-Imperialism
On the course, Romantic Love: Cultural and Psychological Perspectives:

The readings I’ve done this quarter and the guidance I’ve received in understanding them have not only enhanced my education, but have resulted in a deeper self-understanding and a new perspective on an issue that will be important to my orientation in the world for my entire life. For this I am incredibly grateful.

— Fourth-year College Student

### Courses and Lectures, 2006-07

#### Course

- **Donald Levine**, Sociology
- **Jocelyn Malamy**, Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology

*The Complex Problem of World Hunger*

#### Related Lectures

- **Berhanu Abegaz**, College of William and Mary
  *International Development Aid*
- **Daniel Assefa**, Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute
  *Ethiopia’s Economic Potential: Population, Poverty, and the Environment*
- **Philip G. Pardey**, University of Minnesota
  *Biotechnology and Sustainable Energy for Africa: Intellectual Property Laws and Agriculture in the Third World*

#### Course

- **Alison Boden**, Divinity School
  *Body and Soul: Approaches to Prayer*
- **Tanya Luhrmann**, Human Development
  *

#### Course

- **Paul Friedrich**, Anthropology
- **Katia Mitova**, Social Thought
  *Creation and Creativity*

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### BIG PROBLEMS GENERAL LECTURE, 2005-06

#### Course

- **Douglas Chien**, Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club
  *
- **Stephanie Smith**, Smart Museum of Art
- **David Rothenberg**, New Jersey Institute of Technology
  *Can Beauty Save the Earth?*

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#### Course

- **Patrick La Riviere**, Radiology
- **Barbara Stafford**, Art History
  *Perspectives on Imaging*

#### Course

- **Daniel Brudney**, Philosophy
- **John Lantos**, Pediatrics
- **Alison Winter**, History
  *Autonomy and Medical Paternalism*

#### Course

- **Salikoko Mufwe ne**, Linguistics
- **William Wimsatt**, Philosophy
  *Language and Globalization*

#### Related Lecture

- **William Marling**, Case Western Reserve University
  *Globalization, Technology, and Languages*

#### Course

- **Harold Pollack**, Social Service Administration
- **Jose Quintans**, Pathology
  *Biology and Sociology of AIDS*

#### Course

- **Yuri Tsivian**, Art History
- **Bruce Winstein**, Physics
  *Antonioni’s Films: Reality and Ambiguity*

#### Course

- **Sonja Pieck**, Environmental Studies
- **Theodore Steck**, Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology, Environmental Studies
  *Is Development Sustainable?*

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### Course

- **Katia Mitova**, Social Thought
- **Herman Sinaiko**, Humanities
  *Romantic Love: Philosophical and Literary Perspectives*

#### Course

- **Martha McClintock**, Psychology
- **Jose Quintans**, Pathology
  *Psychoneuroimmunology*

#### Course

- **Katia Mitova**, Social Thought
- **David Orlinsky**, Human Development
  *Romantic Love: Cultural and Psychological Perspectives*

#### Course

- **Melvin Rothenberg**, Mathematics
- **Ron Baiman**, Economics at UIC
  *From Neo-Liberalism to Neo-Imperialism*

#### Course

- **James Ketelaar**, History and East Asian Languages & Civilizations
- **Michael Raine**, East Asian Languages & Civilizations
  *Images of Time: Japanese History Through Film*

#### Related Lecture

- **Robert Rosenstone**, California Institute of Technology
  *Inventing Historical Truth on the Silver Screen*

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Continued on page 20
## Courses, 2007-08

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Cinematheque and Arts Talk Series

Given the ubiquity of films and their incorporation into different fields of study, film criticism is no longer either a non-academic pursuit or solely a specialization. The Cinematheque Series enables University faculty and graduate students to screen a film as a community and afterwards reflect upon it from different perspectives over supper.

For artistic works, an audience’s critical appreciation and enjoyment is enhanced when artists talk about their performances. During the 2005-2006 academic year, the Arts Talk series hosted two events for faculty and graduate students. Chris Potter, multi-reedman & composer, joined Travis Jackson, Associate Professor of Music, at the Franke Institute for a conversation focused on extending possibilities in jazz. With the aid of his sax, Mr. Potter demonstrated a history of jazz music in the United States.

Jean Rouch & Edgar Morin’s Chronicle of a Summer. With an introduction and discussion by Judy Hoffman.

Mira Nair’s Monsoon Wedding. With an introduction and discussion by Rochona Majumdar.

ARTS TALK SERIES

Tradition and Innovation with Chris Potter and Travis Jackson

Alfred Brendel in conversation with Arnold Davidson and David Wellbery

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Continued from page 1

The CDI will be a place for pedagogical collaboration and innovation, complementing the established disciplines and departments. It will offer graduate, team-taught courses that will keep the disciplinary questions continually in focus while bringing attention to issues of broad concern, particularly those of method and epistemology. With the support of the Mellon Foundation, we look forward to offering six CDI courses in the 2008-2009 academic year.

During the fall and winter quarters of 2006-2007, the Institute was forced to close its doors to events due to the renovation of the HVAC system for the Regenstein Library. The Institute’s staff worked together to organize and host internal programs such as the bi-weekly Franke fellows discussions, the Every Wednesday Luncheon series for faculty, and public events such as the downtown Chicago Humanities Forum, all while continuing to support faculty members organizing conferences and other special events.

We moved back into our space in time to host the Institute’s annual “Classics in Context” program held in conjunction with the Chicago Humanities Festival. This daylong program features two UChicago faculty presenters speaking on the selected classic as it relates to the yearlong Festival-programming theme. This year’s theme “Peace and War: Facing Human Conflicts” prompted the selection of Hamlet with David Bevington and Eric Slauter each providing different inroads to themes from Hamlet. Another collaborative event with the Festival presented itself through “Copycat,” a panel discussion on plagiarism and copyright featuring Jonathan Lethem, Richard Posner, Lawrence Weschler and Françoise Meltzer. This event was held at the Art Institute and featured on CSPAN Books. Currently, we are working with the Festival to organize a philosopher’s symposium for early November where University of Chicago scholars will join visiting scholars to consider the current climate of concern around global warming and other such threats to our ongoing existence as a species.

The end of spring quarter brought two successful programs that I’d like to share with you. In May, Michael Sells gave a talk for the Chicago Humanities Forum series entitled “Translation of Desires: The Love Poetry of Sufi Master Ibn al’Arabi (d. 638/1240).” For this collaborative event with the Divinity School, Michael described the vastly divergent and intertwined themes of love in Ibn al’Arabi’s poetry, encompassing his knowledge of both mysticism and the sciences, as well as the multiple traditions of love found in Bedouin, courtly, and religious Arabic literature. In the Wednesday series of faculty luncheons, Robert von Hallberg presented a work in progress titled “sob-ballads.” Using tools of literary criticism, Bob looked at the recovery of sentiment in American popular song after Cole Porter, while also exploring the apprehension around the limits of sentimentality amongst popular songwriters such as Frank Sinatra. A recording of his talk is available through the Franke Institute’s website: http://franke.uchicago.edu

James K. Chandler, Director, 2005-2006
Françoise Meltzer, Director, 2006-2007
Helping faculty members stay abreast of their colleagues’ current work from any department in the humanities or humanistic social sciences, the Every Wednesday Luncheon Series was created ten years ago to provide University humanities faculty with regular opportunities to assemble informally. On most Wednesdays during the academic year, a faculty member gives an informal talk over a catered lunch at the Institute about his or her work-in-progress and afterwards responds to questions from the audience. For each talk, participants also include five graduate students who are invited on behalf of the speaker. In addition to “Every Wednesday” talks about ongoing humanities faculty members’ works-in-progress, this series also presents talks by new faculty members in the humanities, by faculty colleagues in the sciences, and by visiting scholars at the University.

**Every Wednesday Luncheon Series, 2005-07**

**NEW FACULTY, 2005-06**

**Kelly Austin**  
Department of Romance Languages & Literatures  
*On Pablo Neruda*

**Persis Berlekamp**  
Department of Art History and the College  
*The Conditional Efficacy of Tusi’s Talismanic Images*

**Yigal Bronner**  
Department of South Asian Languages & Civilizations and the College  
*Crooked Talk and Intertextuality in Early Sanskrit Poetics*

**Kevin Davey**  
Department of Philosophy and the College  
*On Why Time Goes from Past to Future: Statistical Mechanics, Probability, and Skepticism*

**Sascha Ebeling**  
Department of South Asian Languages & Civilizations and the College  
*Print, Novel, Nation: Tamil Literature of South India during the Nineteenth Century*

**Christiane Frey**  
Department of Germanic Studies and the College  
*Genius, Talent, and Individuality from Huarte to Goethe*

**Ryan Giles**  
Department of Romance Languages & Literatures and the College  
*Finding and Losing the Cruz Libro de buen amor, stanzas 112-122*

**Mark Hansen**  
Department of English Language & Literature and the College  
*Time and Media*

**Alison James**  
Department of Romance Languages & Literatures and the College  
*Some Thoughts on Chance in Proust and Perec*

**Christopher Kennedy**  
Department of Linguistics and the College  
*The Grammar of Comparison*

**Rochona Majumdar**  
Department of South Asian Languages & Civilizations and the College  
*Family Values in Postcolonial India: The Hindu Code Debates, 1955-56*

**Emanuel Mayer**  
Department of Classics and the College  
*Propaganda, Staged Applause or Local Politics? Roman State Monuments under the Empire*

**Yitzhak Melamed**  
Department of Philosophy and the College  
*Spinoza’s Anti-Humanism*

**Srikanth (Chicu) Reddy**  
Department of English Language & Literature and the College  
*Erasure as Poetic Composition*

**Jason Riggle**  
Department of Linguistics and the College  
*Computational Simulation as a Tool for Understanding Language Learning and Change*

**Ulrike Stark**  
Department of South Asian Languages & Civilizations and the College  
*Mass Printing and the Commercialization of Islamic Sacred Texts in Nineteenth-Century India*

**Gil Stein**  
Department of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations and the College  
*Variation in the Organization of Bronze Age Mesopotamian States*

**Robin Valenza**  
Department of English Language & Literature and the College  
*It’s Not the Tragedies that Kill Us, It’s the Messes: Femininity, Form, and Dorothy Parker*

**Kelly Austin**  
Department of Romance Languages & Literatures  
*On Pablo Neruda*
Herbert George  
Department of Visual Arts and the College  
*Making a Sculpture Monument Dedicated to Chemical Warfare Victims*  

Wu Hung  
Departments of Art History and East Asian Languages & Civilizations, and the College  
*Mirror and Pillow in Traditional China*  

**DISCIPLINARY DIRECTIONS, 2005-06**  

Norman Bradburn  
Harris School, Department of Psychology, Graduate School of Business, and the College  
The Humanities Indicators Project: What Do We Want to Know About the Humanities  

Carole Ober  
Department of Human Genetics and the College  
*Genetic Studies in a Religious Isolate*  

Harinder Singh  
Department of Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology; Howard Hughes Medical Institute  
*Gene Regulatory Networks and Synthetic Biology*  

**VISITING SCHOLARS, 2005-06**  

Slavoj Zizek  
Critical Inquiry Visiting Professor  
*An Open Conversation*  

**NEW FACULTY, 2006-07**  

Clifford Ando  
Department of Classics and the College  
*Legal Fictions in the Roman Empire*  

Tamara Chin  
Department of Comparative Literature and the College  
*On “Barbarous Greek” in Early China*  

Ping Foong  
Department of Art History and the College  
*Visual Evidence in Chinese Painting*  

Petra Goedegebuure  
Department of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations and the College  
*Linguistics and Hittite: Exploring an Extinct Language Beyond Meaning and Morphology*  

Yuming He  
Department of East Asian Languages & Civilizations and the College  
*Operatic Music in Sixteenth-Century China*  

Matthew Jackson  
Department of Art History and the College  
*The Borders of Art*  

Franklin Lewis  
Department of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations and the College  
*Translating Rumi*  

Steven Rings  
Department of Music and the College  
*Mathematical Models of Musical Perception*  

Jennifer Scappetone  
Department of English Language & Literature and the College  
*The Obsolescence and Counter-obsolescence of Cities*  

Mark Slouka  
Department of English Language & Literature and the College  
*The Politics of Idleness*  

Malika Zeghal  
Divinity School  
*The Politics of Sainthood*  

**WORK IN PROGRESS, 2006-07**  

Laura Letinsky  
Department of Visual Arts and the College  
*Intimacy as the Homely and the Beautiful*  

Salikoko Mufwene  
Department of Linguistics and the College  
*Globalization and Language Endangerment*  

Larry Norman  
Department of Romance Languages & Literatures and the College  
*Ancients and Moderns*  

Barbara Maria Stafford  
Department of Art History and the College  
*On Visual Formulas*  

Robert von Hallberg  
Department of English Language & Literature and the College  
*Sob-ballads*  

William Wimsatt  
Department of Philosophy and the College  
*Re-Engineering Philosophy for Limited Beings*  

**DISCIPLINARY DIRECTIONS, 2006-07**  

Ian Foster  
Department of Computer Science and the College  
*On Computation*  

Jocelyn Malamy  
Department of Molecular Genetics & Cell Biology and the College  
*Transgenic Crops and Feeding the World*  

Theodore L. Steck  
Department of Biochemistry and the College  
*On Saving the Environment*  

**VISITING SCHOLARS, 2006-07**  

Anne Baillot  
Department of Germanic Studies  
*On German Manuscripts of the Regenstein Library*  

Ian Hacking  
Critical Inquiry Visiting Professor  
*On What Has Happened to Autism*  

Miguel Tamen  
Department of Romance Languages & Literatures  
*In Defense of Louis XVI*
FRANKE FACULTY FELLOWS 2007–08

Paul Cheney
Assistant Professor, History
The Enlightenment Science du Commerce: Colonial Expansion and the New European Political Order

Mark Payne
Assistant Professor, Classics
The Animal Part: Humans and Animals in the Iambic Tradition

Michael Raine
Assistant Professor, East Asian Languages & Civilizations

FRANKE DOCTORAL FELLOWS 2007–08

Ulrike Stark
Assistant Professor, South Asian Languages & Civilizations
In Times of Transition. Raja Shivaprasad ‘Sitar-e Hind’

Christopher E. Woods
Assistant Professor, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations
A Study of Sumerian Writing

Wu Hung
Professor, Art History and East Asian Languages & Civilizations
Another Story of Ruins: Presence and Absence in Chinese Art and Visual Culture

Alan C. Yu
Assistant Professor, Linguistics
Rescuing Fleeting Voices: A Study of the Sounds of a Dying Language

Ari Bryen
History and Classics
Violence, Law and Society in Roman and Byzantine Egypt

Jeehee Hong
Art History
Theatricalizing Death: Performance Images of Mid-Imperial China in Mortuary Contexts (11th -13th centuries)

Jacqueline Jay
Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations
The Narrative Structure of Ancient Egyptian Tales: From Sinuhe to Setna

Jonathan Tsou
Conceptual & Historical Studies of Science
Mental Health in Question: Issues in the Philosophy of Psychiatry

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