

Humanities News

The Department of Humanities includes Art History, History, Humanities, Latin American Studies, Social and Cultural Studies, Philosophy, Religion, Women and Gender Studies, and Graduate Humanities

Dominican and Stanford Hold First Joint Student/Alumni Symposium

The Graduate Humanities and Graduate Liberal Studies programs of Dominican University of California and Stanford University held its first joint student and alumni symposium on the Dominican campus in San Rafael on June 23rd, 2007. The day began with lunch and welcoming remarks from Martin Anderson, Director of Graduate Humanities at Dominican, and Linda Paulson, the Associate Dean and Director of Liberal Studies at Stanford. There were twenty-one presenters from both universities. Each panel session was followed by a discussion. All agreed at the Wine and Cheese Reception that the event was a great success and should become an annual event. Stanford plans to host it next year. Congratulations to all the presenters on a terrific job!



Neal Wolfe, Dominican faculty, alumnus, and presenter with other presenters from Dominican and Stanford at lunch

Below is a list of the presentations:

Bioethics and “The Boy in the Bubble” Case

Evelyn McMillan, Stanford

Straight Talk About Stem Cells

Christopher Scott, Stanford

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Approaching the Unknown: The Common Quest of Science and Religion

Neal Wolfe, Dominican

Civil Rights Organizing in Rural Southwest Georgia 1962-3

Tenisha Armstrong, Stanford

Indigenous People’s Cultural Transformation

Joshua Horowitz, Dominican

Agrarianism to Industrialism: How Networks Have Replaced Community

John Suslov, Dominican

Biomechanics in Da Vinci’s Machine Designs

Aline Baeck, Stanford

Anatolian Ceramics: A Reflection of Society and Culture

Marisa Di Menna, Dominican

James Agee - Film Critic as Performance Artist and the Art of Film

Andrew Lachman, Stanford

Faith Based Initiatives and the Constitution

Wendy Pollitz, Dominican

The Justice System and the Digital Divide

Blake White, Stanford

Dominican Values and Administration at Dominican Universities

Marianne Stickel, Dominican



Marianne Stickel, Dominican Graduate Humanities student and Registrar, and other participants.

What Elizabeth Gaskell and Charlotte Bronte Taught Me About 21st Century Life

Naomi Hunter, Stanford

John Milton: A Portrait in Microeconomics

Kerry MacLennan, Stanford

Nietzsche' Reply to Darwin

Jeff Cohen, Dominican

Edward Gibbon and the Power of Empire

Stephen Wullschleger, Stanford

Diamond in the Rough: A Critical Analysis of *Guns, Germs and Steel*

Rebecca Pollack, Dominican

Ice Age Hominids

(Neanderthals) and Woolly Mammoths

Winifred Fleet, Dominican

Teaching, Learning and Living Philosophy: Finding Ethical Balance Between Self-Assertion and Self-Transcendence

Julia Van der Ryn, Dominican

19th Century Boiler Explosions

Denise Osborne, Stanford

Pathways to Yoga – Yoga Pathways

Sabine Henrichsen-Schrembs Dominican



Julia Van der Ryn and Sabine Henrichsen Schrembs, alumna of Graduate Humanities, Dominican faculty and presenters



Dr. Martin Anderson, Director of Graduate Humanities at Dominican, and Linda Paulson, Associate Dean and Director of Stanford's Liberal Studies program celebrate the day

*Faculty Promotions, Publications,
and Other News*

New Ranked Adjuncts

The following adjunct faculty members of the Humanities Department have been awarded rank in recognition of their ongoing and effective contribution to the Dominican academic community.

Steven Borish, Adjunct Associate Professor

Heidi Chretien, Adjunct Associate Professor

Marlene Jones, Adjunct Associate Professor

James Mullane, Adjunct Associate Professor

Robert Traer, Adjunct Associate Professor

Many congratulations on these promotions!

Art history adjunct faculty member **Michael Leonard** has recently received his doctoral degree with an emphasis in education from the University of San Francisco. Many congratulations to Dr. Leonard!

Dr. Cynthia Stokes Brown, Dominican history faculty member, local historian, and an American Book Award winner creates a stunning synthesis of historical knowledge and cutting edge science, putting the history of mankind in the context of its ecological impact on the planet. *Big History-From the Big Bang to the Present* begins when the universe is no more than a single point of unimaginable density and ends with a 21st century planet inhabited by 6.1 billion people — and in

between, considers cell formation, population growth, prehistoric geology, human evolution, the Black Death, the industrial evolution, global warming and more.

Dr. Jame Mullane, Graduate Humanities faculty, recently published *A Store to Remember: I. Magnin & Co.* This is the story of the Magnin family and the creation of one of the most famous fashion dynasties, which reigned supreme for over 118 years.

Dr. Mairi Pillegi, Director of Woman and Gender Studies, together with Concetta M. Stewart has co-authored a chapter in *Community Media International Perspectives*. The chapter is entitled "Conceptualizing Community: Implications for Policymaking in a Cyberage."

Dr. Leslie Ross, Professor and Chair of Art History, is currently completing a two-volume work on "The Art and Architecture of the World's Religions" which will be published by Greenwood Press. These two illustrated volumes (with sixteen chapters total) include coverage of the art and architectural forms associated with the world's major belief systems -- both in their historical forms and as currently practiced today.

Dr. Harlan Stelmach, Professor and Chair of the Department of Humanities, and **Dr. Robert Traer**, an instructor in the Department of Humanities, have published a new book. *Doing Ethics in a Diverse World* published by Westview Press. "Ethics are built into all of us," Stelmach says. "In our book, we've laid out an approach for using various positions – different religious, cultural, and philosophical positions – and coming up with an approach that you – the reader – will confirm what you already know is the moral high ground." People want to be ethical. They want to do the right thing. But on the way to figuring out what is right, they often compromise, rationalize, and manipulate the facts to achieve their aims, according to the authors of the new book about ethics in today's world.

What do Professors Do When on Sabbatical?

As many of you know, Harlan Stelmach, Professor of Humanities and Chair of the Department of Humanities, was awarded a sabbatical for the Fall, 2007 semester. So what is he doing with all that time? When asked to describe his research, Harlan gave a detailed response as follows:

I will extend my previous research and teaching interests in the areas of "civil religion" and religion and public life by analyzing the impact and legacy of Christian Protestant Mission activity in Latin America in the 20th Century.

I will emphasize a case study of Protestant Missions in Ecuador. Through my long-time relationship with the Latin American Council of Churches and access to the personal histories of missionaries specifically in Honduras and Ecuador and the archives of the Protestant churches, I plan to analyze the positive and negative consequences of evangelical and

humanitarian efforts on the religious expression and social benefits of these efforts. Equally important I want to describe the impact these activities had on the lives of the families of the missionaries.

My working premise is that the extra-ordinary commitment of individuals to their faith, under the conditions of mission work, leads to a transformation of this commitment that has produced unintended consequences, both good and bad.

However, much of the history of mission work in the 20th Century has focused on the negative features of converting individuals into a worldview that is alien from their native culture as an aid to Northern imperialism. Without denying the fact of this perspective, it is my thesis that much more can be said in a positive way about this widespread activity. I will particularly look at the social development of the recipients of the mission work and the lasting effect on the mission families. I am very busy, but having a productive intellectual time.

In addition Harlan will be presenting a paper as the keynote speaker at the American Academy of Religion meetings in November at the gathering of the Niebuhr Society. The occasion is the 75th anniversary of Reinhold Niebuhr's classic book: "Moral Man and Immoral Society." The presentation entitled *Niebuhr's Immoral Society and Bellah's Good Society: A Conversation about Moral Man* is on Saturday, November 17th in San Diego and will be followed by a panel discussion of religious scholars.

History Club and Phi Alpha Theta

The **History Club** is now in its second year and will be meeting and holding some special events this fall. Cynthia Brown, History faculty, will discuss her newly published book *Big History: From the Big Bang to the Present*, on October 11th from 12 – 1 pm in the Creekside Room. Sr. Patricia Dougherty is the faculty sponsor for the History Club. The club will meet on Thursday, September 20th from 4:15-5:15 pm in the Wicker Room of Meadowlands.

Phi Alpha Theta is the History honor society. It has an annual installation. Contact Sr. Patricia Dougherty for details.

Dominican Grrls

"Do It Yourself Feminism for the New Millenium"

submitted by Maggie Benedict

Dominican is full of talented, passionate, intelligent women who are eager to make a difference in the world. This is why the new women's issues and action group, **Dominican Grrls**, was formed.

Dominican Grrls is a group dedicated to discussion and action on issues that are important to women. We get together to talk, organize, debate, laugh, and raise awareness for women in our community. The name of the group reflects the Riot Grrl movement of the 1990's, an indie/grassroots movement that focused on aggressively "do it yourself" feminism. Riot Grrls represented a new form of feminism, one that included counter cultural music, female sexuality (both straight and gay), and updated women's equality issues. Riot Grrls also focused on an active approach to women's issues. We want to reflect that action-discussion oriented approach to women's issues here at Dominican!

We will be holding discussions, lectures, meetings, and participating in community events throughout the year. Some upcoming events include "The F Word: FEMINISM", a faculty-student discussion group that will be happening an evening in October, which will address feminism in the new millenium, and a lecture on Female Sexuality: Straight and Gay that will talk about women's issues in sexuality, later in the semester. We will also be working with Dr. LeeAnn Bartolini on her Marin Abused Women's Services rally and walk to support 30 years of the program, and will be holding monthly discussion forums for members of the Grrls.

Faculty support includes members of the Women and Gender Studies Department along with Humanities, History, Art History, Political Science, Music and Performing Arts, and Psychology faculty and staff.

We want your opinions on how to get women together for this group! We're just starting out, so we need your help. Please contact maggie.benedict@students.dominican.edu for more information, or check out our myspace.com profile at <http://myspace.com/dominicangrrls>.

Dominican Grrls: Not your mother's feminism!

Peace Activist to Visit Campus

submitted by Campus Ministry

On Monday, October 1, 12:30 pm in the Creekside Room, **Fr. Roy Bourgeois** will be on campus. Fr. Roy was instrumental in starting the School of the Americas Watch, which has been attempting to shut down the U.S. military training center for Latin American soldiers at Fort

Benning, Georgia. Recently, Fr. Roy and a group have been traveling to countries in Latin America, meeting with the ministers of those countries, to persuade them not to send their military to the U.S. for training. To date, they have received commitments from Venezuela, Argentina, Uruguay, and, most recently, Costa Rica.

Upcoming Debate: Novak vs Scott

Two distinguished scholars from Dominican University, Philip Novak, Professor and Chair of Religion, and Scott Sinclair, Adjunct Professor of Religion, will team up to debate Christianity in a Global Context at First Presbyterian Church, San Rafael, on Saturday, November 3 from 10 to 3. The two specialists, Novak, a scholar in world religions and a religious pluralist, and Sinclair, a New Testament scholar and an Episcopalian priest, will engage one another and the audience around such questions as "What would a responsible religion look like in the face of scientific knowledge, global crisis, and a pluralistic world?" and "What would a responsible Christianity look like—a Christianity that is intellectually honest, socially engaged, and in dialogue with other religious perspectives while at the same time being true to it's own traditions?"

The discussion will be based on chapters from Sinclair's forthcoming book *An Introduction to Christianity for a New Millennium* which raises questions for Novak, the religious pluralist. With polarizations of all types alive in the culture today, these two longtime friends and colleagues in the department of religion at Dominican University, demonstrate that differences can be honored with mutual respect, passion and good humor. **The cost is \$20-public, \$5 for Dominican students, faculty and staff; Lunch is \$7.50. Call 415-456-6760 for reservations.**

Fanjeaux, France

submitted by Sr. Patricia Dougherty

Last May was the 12th summer seminar for faculty, students, and staff of Dominican colleges and universities in the United States in Fanjeaux, France. It is the 11th one on which I worked. Thirty-six people participated. There were eleven students ranging from traditional to older students and representing eight institutions. The rest of the group were faculty, staff, or administrators. It was a wonderful experience for all. While the weather was iffy some of the time, the spirit of the group jelled and looked forward to shared experiences from exploring a cave to see prehistoric paintings to shopping at a local market to enjoying a day at the beach. It was a great experience. The first twelve days were at Fanjeaux in southern France and the last four days were spent in Paris. I feel privileged to meet so many wonderful people from other Dominican institutions of higher learning.



Fanjeaux continued

This coming May will be the 13th summer seminar and will be held from 26 May - 12 June 2008. Both undergraduate and graduate students may attend. The price has not been set, but the cost includes three units for students, all lodging, all field trips (usually in the afternoon), all meals in Fanjeaux, and breakfast and one meal in Paris. The transatlantic trip and Paris-Toulouse flight is extra.

It is a good deal!!

For more information, please contact: Sister Patricia Dougherty at dougherty@dominican.edu.

Senior and Graduate Humanities Theses and Projects

Below is a list of the many outstanding theses submitted this spring by our undergraduate and graduate humanities students. They are available in the library for your perusal.

Undergraduate:

Melissa Buck, *Catholic Lesbian Consciousness*, Humanities

Kaylee Carroll, *A Journey to Ireland: Exploring the History of Irish Thought and Discovering my Origins*, Humanities

Alexandria Cronin, *Religion and Women in the Ancient Near East*, Religion

Daniele Zimmerman, *Unjustly Accused: The Arrests, Trials and Murders of the Crusading Religious Warrior Knights of the Temple of Solomon*, History

David Lim, *Examining the Cambodian Genocide & My Family's Experience*, History

Lori Davis, *Military Women during the Second World War*, History

Marjorie Delgadillo, *From High Risk to Opportunity: The Experience of Minority Children and Adolescents in Foster Care*, Humanities

Cynthia Doherty, *One Size Does Not Fit All*, Humanities

Rebecca Jackson, *An Art Exhibit by the Children of Willow Creek Academy: A Sausalito Public Charter School*, Humanities

Beverly Kit, *The Biracial Experience in America: Memoirs of a Mixed-Race Girl*, Humanities/SCS (Honors)

Michelle La Vallee, *Ageless Attitudes*, Humanities/SCS

Bernadette Lorda, *Business Plan for Beyond Faces Foundation*, Humanities

Forrest Manning, *When a Second Chance is More Like a First*, Humanities

Mo Munsell, *The Significance of Adequate Funding for Residential Treatment Programs*, Humanities

Tamara Nance, *Reflections on the Medical Maze: Individuals, the System and Ethics*, Humanities

Sarah Onizuka, *Redheads in America*, Humanities

Brendan Perry, *How College Students from Single vs Dual Parent Families Adjust to Life*, Humanities

Jonel Cathan Seon, *Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Equality*, Humanities

Kathleen Smith, *Education in the Hands of the US Supreme Court: Why is Racial Segregation Still an Issue?* Poli Sci/History

Amy Stasch, *Three Seasons as a Park Ranger: The Confluence of Wilderness, Management, and Human Experience in Katmai National Park and Preserve*, Humanities

Philip Young, *The American Empire and Colonization*, History

April Zay, *Uniting and healing the Community: A reflection of Jesus Through Poverty, Oppression and Homosexuality*, Religion

Graduate:

Marisa Di Menna

Thesis: *Eastern Mediterranean Pottery: Origins and Influences Converging in Turkey*

Katherine Erickson

Thesis: *Chivalry and Romantic Love in the Courts of Eleanor of Aquitaine: The Quest for Civility in an Otherwise Barbaric World*

Joseph Rozewski

Thesis: *The Role of the Human Figure in Abstract Expressionism: An Anchor to Realism*

Mikako Toh

Culminating Project: *Recital and Performance Guide to Francis Puoulenc's 15 Improvisations in B Minor and C Major; Franz Schubert's Piano Sonata in A Minor, OP. 42, D845; and Claude DeBussy's L'Isle Joyeuse*

Where Are They Now?

Jennifer Brick, who received her Bachelor of Arts in Art History in 2004 is currently completing her Master's degree in the History of Art at the Parsons School of Design in New York City. Jennifer has recently received a prestigious internship position at the Cooper-Hewitt (National Museum of Design, Smithsonian Institution) in New York city. She will be serving as curatorial assistant for several significant upcoming exhibitions.

Ruben Castro is attending Golden Gate University this fall. Ruben received his bachelor's degree in Humanities and Cultural Studies in 2006.

Ellen Joyce, who received her Master of Arts in Humanities this spring, will be attending Pacifica Graduate Institute's Mythological Studies Program with an emphasis in Depth Psychology in the fall.

Victoria Sheridan, who received her Master of Arts in Humanities degree with an emphasis in Art History from Dominican in 2000, and her MA degree in Art History from U.C. Davis in 2003, has now been advanced to candidacy for her Ph.D. in Art History at the University of Toronto. Victoria is completing a dissertation on Venetian Baroque Ornament. She has received a number of prestigious fellowships including the Istituto Veneto de Scienze Lettere ed Arti & Ecole du Louvre (2006); Venice International University (2005 & 2006) and will be presenting a paper this fall (2007) titled: "Those Monstrous Ornaments of Vanity: The Shoe, The Tendril and Silk Stockings in Early Modern Venice." The paper will be presented in England at the International Conference for Popular Culture in the Early Modern World held at the University of Sussex, plus she will be carrying out dissertation research at the British Library in London afterwards.

Amy Stasch was awarded her Bachelor of Arts in May with a Humanities major, environmental emphasis, and a Chemistry minor. She will be attending the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University (Bloomington), pursuing both an MPA (Masters of Public affairs) and MSES (Masters of Science, Environmental

Science) this coming fall, for a 3 year academic program.

Sabrina West, who received a Bachelors of Arts in 2006 with a major in Humanities and Cultural Studies, is in her second year at Pacifica Graduate Institute, in the Department of Mythological Studies.

Philip Young, who received his Bachelor of Arts in History this spring, has entered the teaching credential program at Dominican.

Upcoming Events Supported by Humanities and Expressions

submitted by Arthur Scott

9/23, 3:00 PM

Guest Concert Series, Angelico Concert Hall

10/1, 12:30 PM-1:30PM

Campus Ministry Speaker: Fr. Roy Bourgeois, Creekside

10/4, 7-9 PM

Native American Lecture Series: Jody Martin, Author of *American Indian Horse Masks*, Creekside

10/11, 12-1 PM

Cynthia Brown: *Big History-From the Big Bang to the Present*, Creekside

10/23, 12-1:30 PM

Joan Baranow: *Healing Words-Poetry and the Art of Medicine*, Creekside

11/3, 10 AM-3 PM

Christianity in a Global Context - Arthur Scott and Phil Novak, First Presbyterian Church, San Rafael; \$5 for students, faculty, staff, \$7.50 for lunch; call 415-456-6760 for reservations

11/9, 6-10 PM

Latino Film Festival, Angelico Concert Hall

11/11, 3:00 PM

Guest Concert Series, Angelico Concert Hall

11/16, 8:00 PM

Handel's Messiah-DUWBC, St. Raphael's Church, San Rafael

11/17, 8:00 PM

Handel's Messiah-DUWBC, St. Paul's Church, Noe Valley

11/18, 7-9 PM

Native American Lecture Series: Betty Goerke, Author of *Chief Marin*, Creekside

11/30, 8:00 PM

Handel's Messiah Sing-along-DUWBC, Angelico Concert Hall