

Spring / Summer 2009



**The Newsletter of
The Hellenic Association
for American Studies (HELAAS)**

In this Issue:

EAAS Conference

Helaas Remembers...

Publications

Recommendations

*Visit the HELAAS website at
www.enl.auth.gr/helaas*

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Editorial

Dear Members of the Hellenic Association for American Studies,

A whole year has gone by since the new HELLAS board was elected and I would like on behalf of the other members to give you a brief report of what has been accomplished during the past year and what our plans for the coming one are.

- 1. The List-serv has been improved by Tatiani Rapatzikou and Paschalia Patsala and has kept you updated regularly with conference alerts, calls for papers, graduate funds and other matters.*
- 2. The HELLAS newsletter prepared by the Association Secretary Vassilis Manoussakis with the contribution of all other members of the board has updated you on HELLAS member news, on new book publications, new book presentations, book reviews, conferences, and symposia in addition to those listed in the (list-serv)*
- 3. HELLAS was represented in the American Studies Seminar, a seminar organized annually in Thessaloniki by the University of Macedonia and the American Consulate.*
- 4. An electronic bookshop will soon be inaugurated in the HELLAS electronic site aiming to promote both HELLAS collective and HELLAS member publications.*
- 5. A HELLAS citation has been incorporated in the WIKIPEDIA to give HELLAS further visibility.*
- 6. A most successful one-day symposium was organized in Athens housed and funded by the American College of Greece and a volume with select papers is expected to come out by summer. Elena Maragou and Dora Tsimpouki are the hard working editors.*
- 7. Efforts have been made to give the Association publications prominence by promoting them to the open market. Soon we will have results from these efforts.*
- 8. The work on proxy voting has started. In the coming elections members will be able to vote for the HELLAS officers from the leisure of their study.*
- 9. The new GRAMMA volume (16/2008), **Revisiting Crisis/Reflecting on***

Conflict: American Literary Interpretations from World War II to Ground Zero edited by Tatiani Rapatzikou, and Eleftheria Arapoglou has been posted to all active HELLAS members

10. *The volume of last year's symposium, Trends and Perspectives of American Studies in Greece, edited by Eleftheria Arapoglou has come out and you must have received it by now.*
11. *A Members' Corner will soon be inaugurated in the HELLAS site to encourage members to share their news and communicate with each other.*
12. *An International Conference has been planned for Spring 2010 in Thessaloniki.*

As you can see the board members are working very hard to come up to your expectations. However nothing can be achieved without the active participation of the members. Please, inform us of your academic/research activities, publications, organization of symposia, conferences, book publications, or even send us a book review you have written. We will be very happy to put it on the HELLAS site. Please remember that despite the conscientious efforts of all other HELLAS boards, nothing could have been achieved without the active support of HELLAS members. And as a member of the Association with full subscription you have some benefits which you can enjoy and which are the following:

1. *A free copy of the GRAMMA Journal. (published annually)*
2. *A free copy of all HELLAS publications (A new volume is usually published biennially)*
3. *Reduced participation fee for conferences and events (as of January 2009)*
4. *Automatic registration in the electronic mailing list for all news of academic and professional interest in the world with emphasis on those in Greece and Europe.*

5. *Eligibility to all EAAS members' benefits. (Book awards, graduate students bursaries, academic/professional news) Remember to visit the EAAS site regularly and read the EAAS Newsletter published biannually).*

On behalf of the HELAAS Board, I wish you all a happy Easter and we are looking forward to hearing from you all with news of your academic and cultural activities.

All best wishes,

Smatie Yemenedzi-Malathouni

President of the HELAAS Board

Helaas Remembers...

PAST EVENTS

Black History Month

On February 23, 2009 the Department of American Literature and Culture, at Aristotle Thessaloniki celebrated Black History Month by hosting the African American journalist (and official biographer of Alice Walker), Ms Evelyn C. White. A graduate of Wellesley College, Ms White graduated from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism (in 1985), where she was honored for her master's thesis on "The Racial Development of Blind Black Children." In 1991 she earned a Master's degree in public Administration from Harvard University. She is the author of the acclaimed biography *Alice Walker: A Life* (Norton 2004). She is also the author of *Chain Chain Change: For Black Women in Abusive Relationships* (Seal Press 1994), editor of *The Black Women's Health Book: Speaking for Ourselves* (Seal press 1994) and co-author of the photography book *The African Americans* (Viking 1993). A former reporter for *The San Francisco Chronicle*, her articles, essays and reviews have also appeared in such publications as *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Arizona Republic*, *The Seattle Times*, *The Vancouver Sun*, *The Globe and Mail*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and in *Smithsonian*, *Essence* and *Ms.* magazines.

The title of her talk was "The Universe Provides: Alice Walker, Abundance and the Art of Biography." Ms White shared her thoughts and feelings about the role of fate or destiny in one's life. Drawing examples from her own experiences, she talked about the importance of staying engaged in life in a positive way and not become so disillusioned when things are not right that you give up. She also discussed the difficult process of writing a biography of a living author and her ups and downs during the decade she devoted in researching and gathering the material for her book.

AN OPEN DIALOGUE THROUGH POETRY: Sylvia Plath – Ted Hughes

A tribute to the poetic couple Sylvia Plath-Ted Hughes and the open dialogue they had through their poetry was organized by Melani Publications (www.melanibooks.gr) and the Hellenic American Union (www.hau.gr) at the Ampitheater of the Hellenic American Union (22 Massalias str, Kolonaki, Athens, Greece) on Monday, January 27, 2009.

The event was chaired by Dr. Vassilis Manoussakis (Helaas Secretary) who also gave a paper about Ted Hughes's *Howls and Whispers*, his final collection of poetry, which is quite unknown to the public, but equally important with the famous and celebrated *Birthday Letters*. In this paper, tried to establish the dialogue between the two great poets through her poetry, as these poems constitute replies to instances and events of their common life together.

Assistant Professor Tatiani Rapatzikou (Helaas Treasurer) focused on Sylvia Plath's only novel, *The Bell Jar*, and tried not only to analyze and show the importance of the struggle of the famous poet in the unknown paths of a different genre, but also to present the socio-political background of the time the novel was written and what it meant for a woman to be a writer those days.

Professor Liana Sakelliou-Schultz analyzed a single Plath poem, "Mirror", in order to show the excellence of her verses and present Plath as an emotional, even lyric at times, poet who struggle and finally managed to manipulate her emotions and turn them into a creative driving force. Thus, the emotion dictates the style of her poetry and her poetry, in turn, incorporates emotions and turns them to her advantage.

Myrsini Gana talked about Plath as a short story writer and focused her paper on the ways those first stories were later turned into her well-known poems and they constituted the storage place, where Plath would keep her thoughts and use them later on at her whim. Mrs Gana also talked about her experience translating those short stories into Greek and the obstacles she encountered.

Poems by both Plath and Hughes were read by the poet and translator Giannis Antiochou and the actress Katerina Didaskalou.

SOLO PERFORMANCE

On March 10th, 2009, the New York playwright and actor Catherine Rogers performed her own solo piece entitled *The Sudden Death of Everyone* at the School of English Library at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH). This was a successful and well-attended event. Catherine Rogers' piece touches upon private as well as well socio-political terrors. The play premiered in 2005 and has been seen at Dixon Place and Emerging Artists Theatre in New York, the Women's Studio Workshop in Rosendale, and the Shubin Theatre in Philadelphia. Another solo piece of hers entitled *Georgia O'Keeffe x Catherine Rogers* is published in *Voices Made Flesh: Performing Women's Autobiography* (U of Wisconsin Press). Catherine Rogers has taught writing as assistant professor of humanities at NYU and as a guest artist in the U.S. Co-author of the creative writing curriculum for Theatre for a New Audience, New York, she was an artist-in-the-schools for several years and is an advocate of creative writing as a tool for learning across the curriculum. She is the editor of *Mary Cassatt: A New Catalogue Raisonne* soon to be published online by Adelson Galleries, New York. Also, she is a member of the Dramatists Guild.

Catherine Rogers received her BA in English and Theatre from the College of St. Rose, Albany, New York, and her MFA in Playwriting from the University of Texas, Austin, where she was a James A. Michener Fellow at the Texas Center for Writers. She studied Greek for one semester at Columbia University and continues intensive study at the School of Modern Greek, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Catherine Rogers is visiting Greece as a Fulbright artist-in-residence. She is currently teaching the course in Creative Writing offered by the School of English at AUTH. Her next stop is the Creative Writing Course offered by the School of English at the University of Athens.

HELAAS List serv

We would like to welcome you all to our association's new endeavour. The HELAAS List-serv consists of an electronic mail discussion list and a related network site on the World Wide Web.

Please use this list for the discussion of virtually anything pertaining to the broad range of American Studies.

Messages to be circulating in this List-serv will concern news about: teaching and research projects, works in process, announcements of conferences/jobs/grants/fellowships, internet resources, book reviews, syllabi exchanges etc.

Also, you are invited to use this List-serv as an e-forum where you could post questions/queries or host debates over academic issues relating to American Studies.

An archive of all previously posted messages on the List-serv will be kept. All messages will be sorted by date or subject (eg. women studies, cultural studies, teaching of American literature, etc).

Given that the HELAAS List-serv will be a semi-public e-forum, the list's editors, managers, advisory board and the association itself bear no responsibility for messages forwarded to people outside the list without the initial contributor's prior consent.

The HELAAS board hopes that you've all been enjoying the benefits of this new service. We also hope you find this List-serv useful and constructive.

For any comments or suggestions, please contact:

<trapatz@enl.auth.gr> and <ppatsala@enl.auth.gr>

Calls for Papers-Authors / Conferences / Events

1) EAAS Biennial Conferences

- Dublin 2010: "Forever Young"?
The Changing Images of America
UCD Clinton Institute for American Studies, 26-29 March 2010
- The forthcoming EAAS Newsletter will contain all relevant information and workshop deadlines, as well as other important dates. Please visit the EAAS site for more information on call for papers and travel and conference grants:
<http://www.eaas.eu/>
- The selected workshop titles will be announced in the May 2009 issue of the ASE Newsletter.
September 1, 2009: Workshop paper proposals (with 150-200 word abstract) to be sent to Workshop Chairs by those proposing individual papers.
January 10, 2010: Deadline for information to be included in the 2010 biennial conference program.
- HELAAS will once again be present in this particular conference as it did in all previous ones.

2)

2009 EAAS Rob Kroes Award

The European Association for American Studies (EAAS) is pleased to announce a new, henceforth biennial, award for the best book manuscript in American Studies. The award is named for Rob Kroes, who served as Treasurer (1976–1988) and President (1992–1996) of EAAS. For many years, Rob Kroes also edited the series *European Contributions to American Studies* where the EAAS Biennial Conference volumes appeared from 1980 to 2006. The competition is open to all members of the twenty-one national and joint-national American Studies organizations in the EAAS (see www.eaas.eu/national.htm).

The EAAS defines “American Studies” broadly. To be eligible, a manuscript should be in the fields of literary, cultural, or historical studies. Interdisciplinary studies are also welcome. All entries should be concerned with phenomena or events that focus on what is now the United States of America. We welcome comparative and international studies that fall within these guidelines. To be considered, manuscripts should be between 250 and 400 pages long (375,000 to 670,000 characters equaling 1,500 characters per page).

Authors of eligible manuscripts are invited to nominate their work. We urge scholars who know of eligible manuscripts written by others to inform those authors of the prize. The award is open to authors of English-language manuscripts only. Entrants are requested to write a one- to two-page essay explaining why the manuscript is a significant and original contribution to American Studies. The winning work will be published at no cost to the author in the series *European Views of the United States* (Universitätsverlag Winter Heidelberg). The author is expected to provide the publisher with a camera-ready manuscript or PDF file. Manuscript guidelines are available upon request. Four copies of the manuscript, clearly labeled “2009 Rob Kroes Award Entry,” must be mailed to the following address and received by June 30, 2009:

Prof. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Grabbe
Center for United States Studies (ZUSAS)
Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg
06099 Halle (Saale)
Germany

The winner will be announced by September 1, 2009

3) *The Center of American Studies at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University organizes the 10th International Annual Conference in American Studies*

Title: “The Experience of American Democracy”.

Alongside with the main topic of the Conference our annual conferences traditionally embrace all fields of American Studies: politics, history, education, social and women issue, arts, literature, economics, journalism, medicine, law, US-Georgian relations, etc.

The aim of the conference is to:

- support the development of democratic values in Georgia following the examples of the history and contemporary life of the United States;
- provide scientific and educational activity in fields of American Studies on a professional level;
- popularize this knowledge not only in academic circles but in all strata of Georgian society;
- assist young professionals interested in American Studies;
- strengthen links with other universities with American Studies programs.

Organizers : *Center of American Studies and Georgian Association for American Studies*

Dates : *14-16 May, 2009*

Opening Ceremony: 14 May 2009, 11:00 a.m. I. Javakhishvili hall, *1 Chavchavadze ave, Tbilisi.*

Venue: *Center of American Studies (I. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, II building, room 53, 3 Chavchavadze ave.), or I. Javakhishvili hall, (I. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, I building, 1 Chavchavadze ave., Tbilisi).*

Working language: Georgian and English

Candidates should present:

1. Personal information: name of the Author, phone number, e-mail.

2. Paper should include:

Title

Paper (6-7 pages, font - AcadNusx, font size - 12, line spacing - 1,5)

Summary (300 words, in Georgian and English)

3. Recommendation of the Scientific Adviser (Only for students)

Please, indicate if the electronic equipment for the presentation of the report is needed.

Please send all the above mentioned documents and annexes to the following e-mail:

geoamstud@yahoo.com; lika2medz@yahoo.com.

Deadline for presenting applications is 20 April, 2009

4) Subject: Gilder Lehrman Center Accepting Douglass Prize Nominations

The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition Announces The 2009 Frederick Douglass Book Prize.

The Gilder Lehrman Center is accepting nominations for the 2009 Frederick Douglass Book Prize, a \$25,000 award for the most outstanding nonfiction book published in English in 2008 on the subject of slavery and/or abolition and antislavery movements. Publishers and authors are invited to submit books that meet these criteria. We are interested in all geographical areas and time periods. Please note, however, that works related to the Civil War are acceptable only if their primary focus relates to slavery or emancipation.

Nominations for books published in 2008 will be accepted beginning in January 2009. The deadline for submissions is March 31, 2009.

For information about the prize and past winners visit

<http://www.yale.edu/glc/events/dpnotice.htm>.

For information on where to send submissions, please email

gilder.lehrman.center@yale.edu.

5) Subject: Gilder Lehrman Center Accepts Postdoctoral Fellowship Applications

The Gilder Lehrman Center, part of the Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale, is pleased to announce the Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition Fellowship Program for the academic year 2009-2010.

The GLC Postdoctoral Fellowship Program is designed to support both established and younger scholars in research projects that can be linked to the aims of the GLC. One 4-month fellowship with a stipend of \$12,800 and three 1-month fellowships with a stipend of \$3,200 each are available each spring and fall semester. Scholars currently holding the Ph.D. are invited to apply for either term of fellowship between August 2009 and May 2010.

Fellows will be expected to participate in the intellectual life of the GLC and the larger Yale community, and to acknowledge the support of the GLC and the MacMillan Center in publications and lectures that stem from research conducted during the fellowship term. In addition, Fellows will be expected to offer one public lecture during their tenure at Yale.

The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition (GLC) seeks to promote a better understanding of all aspects of the institution of slavery from the earliest times to the present. Our focus is on the chattel slave system, its destruction, and its legacies including Africans' resistance to enslavement, black and white abolitionist movements, and the comparative study of the ways in which chattel slavery became outlawed around the world. The GLC coordinates annual international and interdisciplinary conferences, lectures, educational outreach, publications, and other activities to bring together scholars and students from across the spectrum of slavery studies.

Applications for Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition Fellowships of the Gilder Lehrman Center, in either 4-month or 1-month categories, should include two copies of the following:

- * Application cover sheet (available on the web at <http://www.yale.edu/glc/info/fellowship.htm>).

- * Evidence of completion of the Ph.D., together with a statement of the date on which the degree is to be conferred. If the degree is not

conferred by the projected date, the postdoctoral appointment shall be

terminated.

- * A curriculum vitae.
- * Two letters of recommendation.
- * A three- to four-page proposal of the research project.

Applications must be received by March 31, 2009 for the Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 semesters.

Completed applications should be returned to:
Gilder Lehrman Center
Yale University
Attn: Fellowships
P.O. Box 208206
New Haven, CT 06520-8206

For inquiries please contact Dana Schaffer at
gilder.lehrman.center@yale.edu or call 203-432-3339.

6) Subject: Research Fellowships in Colonial & U.S. History and Culture for 2009-2010, The Library Company of Philadelphia and Historical Society of Pennsylvania

One-Month Visiting Research Fellowships

These two independent research libraries will jointly award approximately thirty one-month fellowships for research in residence in either or both collections during 2009-2010. The two institutions, adjacent to each other in Center City Philadelphia, have complementary collections capable of supporting research in a variety of fields and disciplines relating to the history of America and the Atlantic world from the 17th through the 19th centuries, as well as Mid-Atlantic regional history to the present. For information on the collections, visit www.hsp.org and www.librarycompany.com/.

One-month fellowships carry a stipend of \$2,000 and are tenable for any one-month period between June 2009-May 2010. Two Barra Foundation International Fellowships, each for \$2,500 plus a travel allowance,

are reserved for foreign national scholars resident outside the U.S.

For more detailed information about Library Company fellowships, go to www.librarycompany.org. We invite inquiries about the appropriateness of proposed topics. The Library Company's newly renovated Cassatt House fellows' residence offers rooms at reasonable rates.

The deadline for receipt of one-month fellowship applications is March 2, 2009, with a decision to be made by April 15. To apply, submit 7 copies each of a resume, a 2-4 page description of the proposed research, and a letter of reference. Please send materials to James Green, Library Company, 1314 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Phone: 215-546-3181, FAX: 215-546-5167, or email: jgreen@librarycompany.org.

Albert M. Greenfield Foundation Dissertation Fellowships

This fellowship supports dissertation research in residence at the Library Company on any subject relevant to its collections. The term of the fellowship is from September 2009 to May 2010, with a stipend of \$20,000. The award may be divided between two applicants, each of whom would spend a semester in residence. The application deadline and procedures are the same as for the one-month fellowships as described above, with the addition of 7 copies each of a second letter of reference and a writing sample of about 25 pages.

**7) Subject: Postgraduate Studentships 2009
School of American & Canadian Studies, University of Nottingham**

School of American & Canadian Studies
Institute of Film & Television studies
For MA, MRes, & PhD Programmes

AHRC studentships (subject to the outcome of the University's bid to the AHRC under the Block Grant scheme) and School studentships are available. Applications are invited from highly-qualified students across all areas of American & Canadian Studies and Film & Television Studies, including literature, history, politics, cultural and performance studies and new media studies.

In the first instance, you should apply for a place on your chosen programme of study at: <http://pgapps.nottingham.ac.uk/>

All applicants will be considered for both AHRC (if eligible) and School studentships and asked to supply additional information in support of their application for a studentship.

The deadline for this additional information is: March 23rd, 2009

Fees paid at Home/EU rate. Maintenance grants in line with national levels set by the AHRC, which for 2008/09 are: MA/MRes £9,040; Phd 12,940.

For further information and informal advice, please contact:

For American & Canadian Studies
Dr Graham Thompson, School of American and Canadian Studies
graham.thompson@nottingham.ac.uk

For Film & Television Studies
Professor Roberta Pearson, Institute of Film and Television Studies
roberta.pearson@nottingham.ac.uk

**8) DARTMOUTH COLLEGE ANNOUNCES
THE 2009 FUTURES OF AMERICAN STUDIES INSTITUTE**

RE-CONFIGURATIONS OF AMERICAN STUDIES

MONDAY, JUNE 22 - SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 2009

DIRECTOR: Donald E. Pease (Dartmouth College)

CO-DIRECTORS:

Elizabeth Dillon (Northeastern University)

Winfried Fluck (Freie Universitaet, Berlin)

Eric W. Lott (University of Virginia)

INSTITUTE FACULTY:

Nancy Bentley (University of Pennsylvania), Colleen Boggs (Dartmouth College), Barrymore Anthony Bogues (Brown University), Anna Brickhouse (University of Virginia), Hamilton Carroll (University of Leeds), Christopher Castiglia (Pennsylvania State University), Russ Castronovo (University of Wisconsin), Michael Chaney (Dartmouth College), Tim Dean (State University of New York, Buffalo), Soyica Diggs (Dartmouth College), J. Martin Favor (Dartmouth College), Nancy Fraser (New School), Jeffrey Glover (University of Rochester), Macarena Gomez-Barris (University of Southern California), Judith Halberstam (University of Southern California), Andrew Hebard (Miami University of Ohio), Donatella Izzo (University of Naples), Cindi Katz (City University of New York), George Lipsitz (University of California, Santa Barbara), Lee Medovoi (Portland State University), Klaus Milich (Dartmouth College), Jose Munoz (New York University), Alan Nadel (University of Kentucky), Anders Olsson (Uppsala University, Sweden), John Carlos Rowe (University of Southern California), Jose David Saldivar (University of California), Ramon Soto-Crespo (State University of New York, Buffalo), Paul Smith (George Mason University), Maurice Stevens (Ohio State University)

DESCRIPTION:

This year of the Institute is the fourth of a four-year focus on "Re-configurations of American Studies." This topic is meant to foreground the reflexive turn in the cultures of American studies both

inside and outside the United States. As such, we are inviting both

scholars well known as "Americanists" internationally and those whose theoretical frameworks, objects of study, and disciplinary inclinations promise to transform the field's self-understanding.

The Institute is divided into plenary sessions which feature current work from Institute faculty (listed above) and research seminars in which all participants present and discuss their own works-in-progress. Speakers in the plenary sessions will examine the relation between emergent and residual practices in the field of American Studies from a variety of interdisciplinary perspectives. The Institute welcomes participants who are involved in a range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary fields and who are interested in current critical debates in American Studies.

The Institute was designed to provide a shared space of critical inquiry that brings the participants' work-in-progress to the attention of a network of influential scholars. Over the past ten years, plenary speakers have recommended participants' work to the leading journals and university presses within the field of American Studies, and have provided participants with recommendations and support in an increasingly competitive job market.

FEE:

The fee for the Institute (covering registration, housing, and seminars) is \$695.00.

The fee to attend only the Institute plenary sessions is \$500.

APPLICATIONS:

Applications for the 2009 Institute will be accepted until all slots have been filled, but applications received by April 20, 2009 will be granted priority.

Applicants should send a brief description of their own projects (no more than 1 page) along with a current CV, a writing sample (10-15 pages) and a \$10 application fee (please make checks payable to "Dartmouth College").

Applications should be mailed to:

The Futures of American Studies Institute
Dartmouth College

116 Wentworth Hall

Hanover, NH 03755.

For further information, please contact:

Tom Zoellner

Email: Futures.of.American.Studies.Institute@Dartmouth.edu

URL: <<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~futures/>>

Phone: 603-646-3592

RESPONSES TO THE INSTITUTE:

"The intense academic experience of the Futures Institute has been immensely valuable for my development as a scholar. A wide variety of lectures has given me a glimpse of the freshest thinking being done in the field of American Studies, and a chance to meet and talk with leading scholars whom I might have seen only from afar at larger conferences. Stimulating seminar discussions have challenged me to become a more responsive colleague and to situate my own work more effectively in an ongoing critical conversation. I feel confident that I'll carry my network of friends, mentors, and intellectual fellow travelers well beyond those summer days in Hanover!"

- Leslie Eckel, Futures Participant

"At the Futures of American Studies Institute, Donald Pease and Elizabeth Dillon have created a space of intellectual vitality that is absolutely unparalleled. The plenary lectures, given by internationally renowned figures in the field American studies, were a continual source of energy and inspiration. Yet what was truly remarkable about this Institute was the sense in which it was more than simply a collection of brilliant individuals. Through a seminar structure that actively engages participants and plenary speakers alike, the Institute invites each participant into the discussion of the state of American studies, insisting that each participant share the work they hope to contribute to the futures of this field. The result is the building of a community that is supportive yet challenging, in which each person is invested in helping others rethink their ideas in exciting new ways. This community has given me a completely new and valuable outlook on the work I do, and upon the

ways this work intersects with the larger field of American studies. It was one of the best educational experiences I've ever had, and I only hope I can continue to be a part of the community this Institute has fostered in the years to come."

- Jesse Cross, Futures Participant

"The combination of intensive workshops devoted to each participant's work in progress, a dizzying array of fantastic plenary speakers, and the general atmosphere of intellectual fecundity that pervades the Institute sets it apart from all other academic gatherings, providing a serious workspace for critical discussion and exploration that is far greater than the sum of its parts. For all of its strengths, the single greatest virtue of the Futures Institute is its capacity to produce in every one of its participants an experience of intellectual euphoria that ultimately manifests itself as a kind of productive exhaustion."

-- Brian Thill, Futures Participant

"The Futures of American Studies Institute is one of the most vibrant and challenging intellectual spaces for critical thinking in the American Academy. Bringing together scholars from many different countries it facilitates conversations and sharp exchanges between them through a series of plenary lectures and debates. For the graduate student, the Institute is a place where one can, in a non-competitive atmosphere, get feedback both from peers and leading scholars in different fields. I cannot think of a better place to spend a week in intense intellectual conversation."

- Anthony Bagues, Futures Faculty

9) Subject: Salzburg Seminar American Studies Alumni Association (SSASAA) Globalization and American Popular Culture

Friday, September 25 - Monday, September 28, 2009

The globalization of American popular culture has been the subject of much critical attention in recent years - particularly in debates questioning whether American culture bears primary responsibility for increasing global cultural homogenization or whether, on the contrary, it has

facilitated the development of a fascinatingly complex global cultural heterogeneity. American cultural influences have had a major effect on other cultures and they continue to play a crucial role in the cultural dynamics of globalization. Questions to be addressed will include: What does "American popular culture" mean in an era in which cultural industries are thoroughly international in terms of ownership and in terms of the contents of the cultural commodities they produce?

For example, of the remaining 'majors' in the music business, only one could be described as remotely 'American'. Jazz is often considered to

be the classical music of America, yet is this phenomenon perhaps being misinterpreted by applying nationalist parameters?

US cinema has from the beginning been part of a transatlantic cultural exchange, but with regard to production this exchange has been limited to economic and cultural elites, working in both the US and Europe. Television is yet a different case since national TV industries are more resistant to US influence than national cinema industries, although in the last five years 'quality' American television has become far more prominent in European countries. There will be discussion about US nationalism in cinema and electronic games in the context of the US's use of the New International Division of Cultural Labor to obtain and maintain its geopolitical objectives, emphasizing the role of the state in the export and textuality of these culture industries. Participants will also discuss two contradictory directions in which American mass cultural forms have been taken at the European receiving end - one where the appropriation of an American mass cultural vernacular has been used to produce statements which can be seen as cultural resistance - the other a direction where American cultural influence has served to commodify, or commercialize, European ventures in the area of public history (the Disneyfication of public history). The purpose of the symposium is to examine the above issues in depth by exploring the dynamics and impact of American popular culture on national and local cultures, on national cultural industries, on American cultural diplomacy, and on the process of globalization.

Speakers:

Ron Clifton (chair), Retired Counselor in the Senior Foreign Service of the United States,

Rob Kroes, Former Chair, American Studies Program, University of Amsterdam; Former President, European Association for American Studies,

Toby Miller, (Keynote Speaker), Professor and Chair, Media & Cultural Studies, University of California Riverside,

Roberta Pearson, Professor of Film and Television Studies, Institute of Film and

Television Studies, University of Nottingham,
Alex Seago, Chair, Social Sciences, Richmond American International University
Reinhold Wagnleitner, Associate Professor of Modern History,
University of Salzburg

For further information, contact Ms. Marty Gecek, Symposium Director,
mgecek@SalzburgGlobal.org

**10) Subject: New Online Journal
FIAR Forum for Inter-American Research issue 2**

We are pleased to announce that a new issue of FIAR, the online journal of the Forum for Inter-American Research, is available at <http://interamerica.de>

This issue features selected papers from the international conference "Remembering and Forgetting - Memory in Images and Texts" which was held in June 2008 at the University of Bielefeld, Germany.

The Opening Keynote "Toni Morrison: Cultural Memory and the New World Novel" by Prof. Maryemma Graham (University of Kansas) is available as streaming video.

The new issue also features articles by Julia Andres, Ridvan Askin, Laszlo Mutean, and Daniela Opitz.

1) Julia Andres: Bielefeld University (Germany) Tu eres mi otro yo - Your Story is my Story: Caramelo: Strands of Memory Woven Into a Universal Pattern

2) Ridvan Askin: Freiburg University (Germany) Mneme, Anamnesis and Mimesis: The Function of Narrative in Paul Ricoeur's Theory of Memory

3) Laszlo Mutean: University of Budapest (Hungary) Working Through Ground Zero

4) Daniela Opitz: Bielefeld University (Germany), Evitas Montoneras La memoria de la militancia femenina en el cine documental argentino

We invite advanced graduate students and established scholars to submit proposals for the coming issues of FIAR on a rolling basis.

Submissions should have a focus on transnational American or Inter-American Studies.

Articles will be published in English and/or Spanish.
Please visit <http://interamerica.de> to view the full current issue, and to learn about how to submit.

11) Master of Arts in Heidelberg Center for American Studies

Anne Lübbers, M.A.
MAS Coordinator
Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA)
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69117 Heidelberg
Germany
Tel. + 49 6221 543713
Fax + 49 6221 543719
aluebbers@hca.uni-heidelberg.de

The Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) invites applications for its exclusive, interdisciplinary Master of Arts in American Studies (MAS) program. Aimed at qualified graduate students from around the world it offers inside knowledge on the United States with an outside perspective.

The MAS is a three semester program taught in English. A performance-related fast track option (two semesters) is available. Participants are expected to bring to the program an outstanding academic record as well as work experience and demonstrable social commitment. The MAS provides training in academic and practical skills tailored to meet the needs of future leaders in a transatlantic and global environment.

Program: American Studies in the MAS is defined by exemplary and interdisciplinary teaching of cultural knowledge about the United States of America. The curriculum includes a selection of courses from economics, geography, history, law, literature, musicology, philosophy, political science, religious studies, and sociology. Up to 30 students are admitted to the MAS every year. Admission is competitive and depends on the quality and academic merits of the candidates. Most candidates will have studied law, humanities, or social sciences at the undergraduate or graduate level. Applicants from outside the EU should have successfully completed degree programs involving a minimum of four years of study at recognized academic institutions.

Benefits: MAS students benefit from exclusive interdisciplinary seminars and courses, an excellent student/faculty ratio, outstanding teaching by internationally renowned scholars,

and superb research opportunities for the M.A. thesis under the supervision of distinguished experts.

At the University of Heidelberg, students are part of an international learning community: Heidelberg is home to over 27,000 full-time students, including more than 6,000 foreign students. Heidelberg University also attracts more than 500 international scholars as Visiting Professors each academic year. It was recently declared one of Germany's elite institutions of higher learning.

Tuition: The tuition fees for the MAS are 2,500 EUR per semester. A limited number of scholarships are available.

Applications are accepted until March 31, 2009. Application forms, reference forms and a course outline are available at: www.mas.uni-hd.de. The program starts in late September 2009.

For further information please email us: mas@hca.uni-heidelberg.de.

Completed applications should be send to:

Heidelberg Center for American Studies
Attn. MAS
Curt and Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais
Hauptstr. 120
69117 Heidelberg
GERMANY

The Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA): The University of Heidelberg established the HCA in 2003 to serve as an institute for higher education, as a center for interdisciplinary research, and as a forum for public debate. The HCA is an intellectual center dedicated to the study of the United States in a global context, providing space for academic, public, and political discussions.

Heidelberg University offers unique conditions for the work of the HCA: an outstanding academic tradition, a sterling international reputation, an attractive location in the historic center of one of Germany's most beautiful and welcoming cities, and a strong record in the study of the United States.

The HCA calls the Curt und Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais its home. Located just a step away from the University Library and the main lecture halls, this 300-year-old baroque townhouse offers perfect working conditions as well as a welcoming atmosphere for students, scholars, and the public.

**12) Transatlantic Studies Seminar
(Formerly American Studies Seminar)**

Title: “Civil Rights in the U.S. and Europe”
April 2-4, 2009
Journalists Union of Macedonia and Thrace
5 Stratigou Kallari street

Organized by

The University of Macedonia and
the U.S. Consulate General in Thessaloniki
with the kind support of the Journalists’ Union of Macedonia and Thrace

Further information, eligibility criteria and application forms:

University of Macedonia
Tel. 2310 891279
e-mail: etairia@uom.gr,
<http://www.uom.gr>

PUBLICATIONS

Please send us news about your recent publications or events you organized or participated in. Also, we would greatly appreciate it if you sent us information (and even a short paragraph) about future events you are going to organize or participate in.

1) GRAMMA: Journal of Theory and Criticism, Vol. 16 Revisiting Crisis/Reflecting on Conflict: American Literary Interpretations from World War II to Ground Zero

Editors: Tatiani G. Rapatzikou and Alikì Varvogli. Assistant Editor: Eleftheria Arapoglou

The new volume of GRAMMA is now out (members should have received a free copy by now). You could read the articles of the volume online at www.enl.auth.gr/gramma

2) Χρήστος Χρυσόπουλος: *Η Λονδρέζικη Μέρα της Λώρας Τζάκσον*



Υπάρχει κάτι που πρέπει να ειπωθεί για μας και τη μαρτυρία του οποίου όλοι περιμένουμε. Μέσα στην άβουλη άγνοιά μας, βιαζόμαστε να ακούσουμε ιστορίες για περασμένες ανθρώπινες ζωές, για νέες ανθρώπινες ζωές, για επινοημένες ανθρώπινες ζωές, λαχταρώντας για κάτι που θα μας βοηθήσει στην αναμονή της αναπάντητης περιέργειάς μας. Γνωρίζουμε ότι είμαστε εξηγήσιμοι, αλλά μη-εξηγημένοι. Πολλά από τα λιγότερο σημαντικά πράγματα που μας αφορούν έχουν ήδη λεχθεί, όμως τα ουσιαστικά πράγματα παραμένουν ανεπίτιστα, και τίποτα δεν μπορεί να καλύψει την έλλειψή τους. Οτιδήποτε μαθαίνουμε γι' αυτό που δεν είμαστε, αλλά μπορούμε να κατανοήσουμε επειδή είναι μέρος του κόσμου μας, αφήνει ανεπηρέαστη ετούτη την κενότητα. Ωστόσο η ιστορία για

τον ελλείποντα εαυτό μας ειπωθεί, ό,τι και να λεχθεί θα είναι ανεπαρκές – θα συνεχίζουμε, σιωπηλά, να το επιθυμούμε

L. (R.) Jackson, *The Telling*, Carcanet Press 2005. Από το βιβλίο "Η λονδρέζικη μέρα της Λώρας Τζάκσον", Καστανιώτης, 2008.

Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες για τον συγγραφέα μπορείτε να επισκεφτείτε (for more info about the author, please visit):

<http://chrissopoulos-vivlia.blogspot.com/2006/06/a.html>

- 3) **Νέο περιοδικό για την ποίηση *Poetix* (Διευθυντής: Ντίνος Σιώτης-ποιητής).** Εκδόσεις Δαρδανός-Gutenberg. Ημερομηνία κυκλοφορίας πρώτου τεύχους: Παρασκευή 20 Μαρτίου.

Εορτάζοντας τα προεόρτια της Παγκόσμιας Ημέρας Ποίησης

Οι Εκδόσεις Gutenberg και η Κοινωνία των (δε)κάτων

σάς προσκαλούν

την **Παρασκευή 20 Μαρτίου 2009**, στις **7.00 μ.μ.**,

στην **αίθουσα Γεωργίου Καράντζα της ΕΣΗΕΑ**

Ακαδημίας 20, στον 1ο όροφο

στην παρουσίαση

του νέου περιοδικού για την ποίηση **Poetix**

και του 17^{ου} τεύχους του περιοδικού *(δε)κατα*

- 4) **EAAS (European Association for American Studies) Newsletter**

You may find the new (2008) EAAS Newsletter in the following address:

<http://www.eaas.eu/newsletter/EAAS%20ASE%2061min.pdf>

- 5) **George Shulman, *American Prophecy: Race and Redemption in American Political Culture* (U. of Minnesota Press)**

Prophecy is the fundamental idiom of American politics—a biblical rhetoric about

redeeming the crimes, suffering, and promise of a special people. Yet American prophecy and its great practitioners—from Frederick Douglass and Henry Thoreau to Martin Luther King, James Baldwin, and Toni

Morrison-are rarely addressed, let alone analyzed, by political theorists. This paradox is at the heart of *American Prophecy*, a work in which George Shulman unpacks and critiques the political meaning of American prophetic rhetoric.

In the face of religious fundamentalisms that associate prophecy and redemption with dogmatism and domination, *American Prophecy* finds connections between prophetic language and democratic politics, particularly racial politics. Exploring how American critics of white supremacy have repeatedly reworked biblical prophecy, Shulman demonstrates how these writers and thinkers have transformed prophecy into a political language and given redemption a political meaning.

Cornel West says of "*American Prophecy*," "This is the grand book on the American prophetic tradition of thought and action we've been waiting for! Shulman's subtle theoretical analyses, sophisticated historical narratives, and progressive political project brings new life to a set of issues and figures-such as race, empire, and democracy in the texts of Thoreau, King, Baldwin, and Morrison-that either we honestly face or we sadly succumb to, to our destruction."

RECOMMENDED SITES

As of this Newsletter, a new column is introduced under the above general title.

Please feel free to send me the sites you have discovered, those you like, those you visit, read and catch your fancy or simply those which help you make it through a difficult day at work or at home.

The following are Helaas first recommendations. Enjoy...

For pleasure...

Poema: www.e-poema.eu

(de)kata: www.dekata.gr

For leisure...

Global Radio Greece: www.globalradio.gr

Radiophone Greece: <http://www.radiophone.gr/poema.htm>

HELAAS Subscriptions

Your 2009 Fee is now due.

We would like to draw your attention to the fact that the membership fee covers the yearly subscription of HELAAS to EAAS, which is calculated on the basis of the number of registered members. Let us also note that the membership fee is also used to cover the organizational expenses of HELAAS events (symposia, conferences, and publications).

The membership fee entitles HELAAS members

- to participate in HELAAS conferences and events
- to participate in the biannual EAAS conferences
- to receive the HELAAS newsletter
- to have access to the *European Journal of American Studies*, the E-Journal of the European Association for American Studies, which is available at [<http://ejas.revues.org/>](http://ejas.revues.org/)
- to advertise their books through the EAAS book reviews section where they can also receive information about current publications in the field of American Studies
- to apply to be elected in any of the four positions on the HELAAS board

Please note our new bank account details for the HELAAS 2007 subscription fee:

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You are all kindly requested to update or renew your subscriptions at your earliest convenience.

We would also like to inform you that it is possible to download the membership form posted on the HELAAS web site

[<http://www.enl.auth.gr/HELAAS/registration_form_HELAAS.doc>](http://www.enl.auth.gr/HELAAS/registration_form_HELAAS.doc)

and e-mail it to the HELAAS secretary, Dr. Vassilis Manoussakis, at <vman2007@ath.forthnet.gr>.

Payment can be made at the Piraeus bank, account number 5272-026131-179, only provided that the treasurer, Tatiani Rapatzikou, receives a copy (by fax, e-mail, or snail mail) of the deposit slip. Instructions are posted on the on-line membership form: <http://www.enl.auth.gr/HELAAS/registration_form_HELAAS.doc>

For change of contact details or email, please get in touch with the HELAAS Secretary, Dr. Vassilis Manoussakis, at <vman2007@ath.forthnet.gr>