



HUMANITIES INSTITUTE

Challenge. Create. Connect.

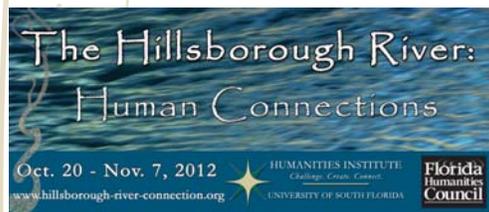
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

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CELEBRATING OUR HILLSBOROUGH RIVER!

Signature Theme: Focus on Florida



The Hillsborough River: It's an oasis of tranquil nature in a busy urban area, or a popular waterway, bustling with boats and business. But did you know that the remains of a steamer burned by Union troops in 1863 lie in its waters at Lowry Park, or that it boasted a "bat tower" in Temple Terrace that was part of a grand experiment in mosquito eradication?

This Fall, we're excited to bring you *The Hillsborough River: Human Connections*, a three-week program that celebrates the unique history and cultural heritage of the river, which has played a major role in the life of our region from prehistoric times to today.

Rising in the Green Swamp, near the intersection of Pasco, Polk, and Hillsborough counties, the Hillsborough flows 55 miles to Tampa Bay. Once a

source of water, food, and transport for Native Americans, it was crucial to the development of Tampa, and is now enjoying a rebirth as an urban recreational and living site.

Starting with participation in the Hillsborough River Clean-Up on Oct. 20, we will host a series of events through November 7, as our first Focus on Florida signature program.

Continued on Page 4...



FROM THE DIRECTOR: A PACKED AND DIVERSE FALL LINE-UP

In my first year as HI Director, my goal has been to establish some priorities for the Institute, get us on a good financial trajectory, and provide programming that appeals to our diverse constituencies – USF faculty, staff, and students and (equally important) the community around us.

I'm pleased with what Assistant Director Liz Kicak and I have achieved. This past Spring, almost 3,500 people attended HI events – close to a 70% increase over the previous Spring,



Dr. Liz Bird, Director

and across the entire year, attendance rose by a third from the previous year. So I'm hopeful we're doing something right! We were especially happy at the success of some new projects, such as our three-day interdisciplinary conference on "Violence, Memory, and Human Rights," which drew participants from over a dozen countries to USF, and from which co-organizer Fraser Ottanelli and I are developing an edited book. Poetry Month, under the able leadership of Jay Hople,

and partially funded through a Florida Humanities Council grant to Jay, was also a big draw. If you missed our "Poetry Matters at USF" project, in which USF people chose favorite poems to share, you can check our website, where they're all archived. Keep a look out for next year, when we'll offer a poetry competition for the creative members of our constituency.

This coming year, we have a fascinating array of programs already in place, with more in the planning stages. Visiting speakers will address topics as varied as the notorious Johns Committee

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Humanities Institute

ELIZABETH BIRD, Ph.D.
Director: ebird@usf.edu

LIZ KICAK, M.F.A.
Assistant Director: ekicak@usf.edu

4202 E. Fowler Ave., CPR107
Tampa, FL 33620
Phone: 813.974.3657

www.humanities-institute.usf.edu

Faculty Advisory Board

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RESIDENT FELLOWS PROGRAM: A SNEAK PEAK

Spring 2013 marks the 10th anniversary of the Humanities Institute – and it is also the year we inaugurate an exciting new initiative: The Distinguished Resident Fellow Programs, generously funded through the **USF Office of the Provost**.

Two internationally-renowned visitors will be on campus Spring semester, giving public talks and interacting with students and faculty in many different settings. We'll have more details in our Spring Newsletter, but wanted to give everyone a sneak peek into plans for 2013.

For two weeks in February, we'll welcome **Nell Irvin Painter**, the Edwards Professor Emerita at Princeton University. A prolific and award-winning scholar, her most recent books include *The History of White People* (2010), *Creating Black Americans* (2006), and *Southern History Across the Color Line* (2002). She is a leading public intellectual, who has



made many TV appearances with hosts ranging from Bill Moyers to Stephen Colbert. For more information, visit her website at: www.nellpainter.com.

Then in April, leading off National Poetry Month, we will host poet and scholar **Jorie Graham** for a week. Described by the U.S. Poetry Foundation as “perhaps the most celebrated poet of the American post-war generation,” she is the Boylston Professor of Poetry at Harvard.

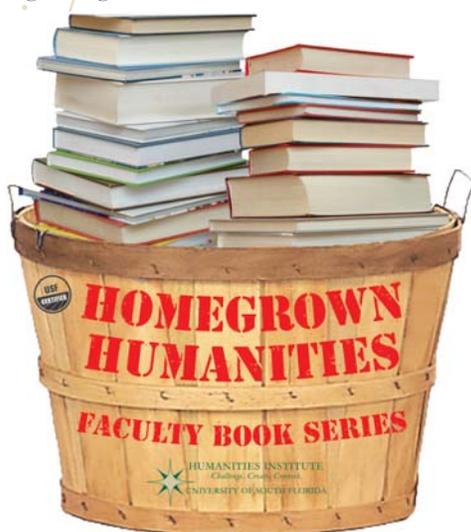


The author of numerous books of poetry, including the new and critically-acclaimed *Place* (2012), her numerous awards include the Pulitzer Prize, MacArthur Fellowship, Lavan Award from the Academy of American Poets, and the Morton Dauwen Zabel Award from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. Her website is at: www.joriegraham.com.

Stay tuned for more information about their visits!

NEW FACULTY BOOK SERIES FEATURES HOMEGROWN SCHOLARS

USF has a diverse, vibrant pool of faculty making noteworthy academic and creative contributions to the humanities every day. Beginning this Fall, the Institute unveils



a new faculty book series: *Homegrown Humanities*. On the second Wednesday of each month, different USF faculty members will discuss a recently published book and answer questions about their research in the humanities. Come enjoy some food, a glass of wine, and get familiar with the groundbreaking research taking place right here at USF. All talks will take place in the Grace Allen Room (Library). Refreshments will be served at 4:00pm and the featured speaker begins at 4:30pm. We have three events scheduled for Fall 2012:

Wednesday, Sept. 12

Dr. Abraham Khan (Communication and Africana Studies). *Curt Flood in the Media: Baseball, Race, and the Demise of the Activist Athlete*.

This book examines the public discourse surrounding Curt Flood (1938-1997), the star center fielder for the St. Louis Cardinals throughout the 1960s. In 1969, Flood refused to accept being traded to the Philadelphia Phillies, arguing that Major League Baseball had violated both U.S. antitrust laws and the 13th Amendment's prohibition of involuntary servitude. Most significantly, Flood appeared on national television with Howard Cosell and described himself as a “well-paid slave.” Khan examines the ways in which the media constructed the case and Flood's persona. By examining the mainstream press, the black press, and primary sources including Flood's autobiography, Khan exposes the complexities of what it

means to be a prominent black American athlete in 1969 and today.

Wednesday, Oct. 10

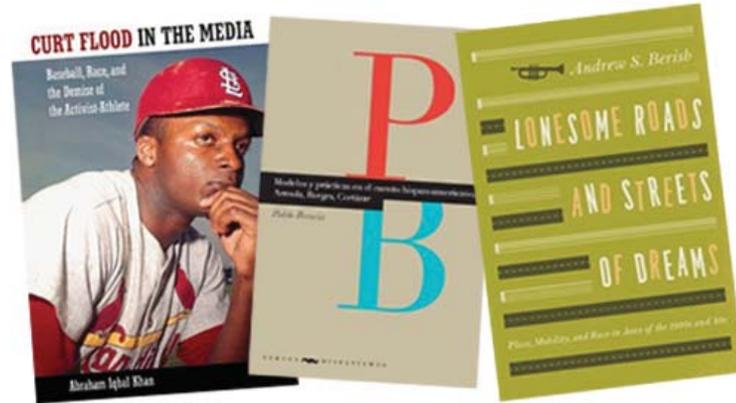
Dr. Pablo Brescia (World Languages) *Modelos y prácticas en el cuento hispanoamericano: Arreola, Borges, Cortázar.*

This book is a cross-cultural and cross-literary attempt to map out the history and theory of the Latin American short story in the 20th century. It provides a framework to understand the literary and cultural conditions under which the short story developed in Latin American literature, by researching the theoretical and fictional contributions of Mexican writer Juan José Arreola and Argentine writers Jorge Luis Borges and Julio Cortázar to the genre. These writers represent a case study for the main hypothesis, which contends that master short story writers build a network of literary and cultural affinities that ultimately constitutes a model for the practice of the genre.

Wednesday, Nov. 14

Dr. Andrew Berish (Humanities & Cultural Studies). *Lonesome Roads and Streets of Dreams: Place, Mobility, and Race in Jazz of the 1930s and '40s.*

Any listener knows the power of music to define a place, but few can describe the how or why of this phenomenon. In his new book, Andrew Berish



attempts to right this wrong, showcasing how American jazz defined a culture particularly preoccupied with place. By analyzing both the performances and cultural context of leading jazz figures,

including the many famous venues where they played, Berish bridges two dominant scholarly approaches to the genre, offering not only a new reading of swing era jazz but an entirely new framework for musical analysis in general, one that examines how the geographical realities of daily life can be transformed into musical sound. *Lonesome Roads and Streets of Dreams*

depicts not only a geography of race but how this geography was disrupted, how these musicians crossed physical and racial boundaries—from black to white, South to North, and rural to urban—and how they found expression for these movements in the insistent music they were creating.

A DARK ERA FOR FLORIDA ACADEME: THE JOHNS COMMITTEE

Signature Theme: History, Myth, and Memory

USF alumna, Stacy Braukman, will explore a dark period in Florida's history when she comes to campus this fall. She will discuss her new book, *Communists and Perverts Under the Palms: The Johns Committee in Florida, 1956-1965*, which provides an in-depth analysis of the historical and cultural anxieties that resulted in the interrogation and punishment of university faculty and administrators, students, public school teachers, and civil rights activists.



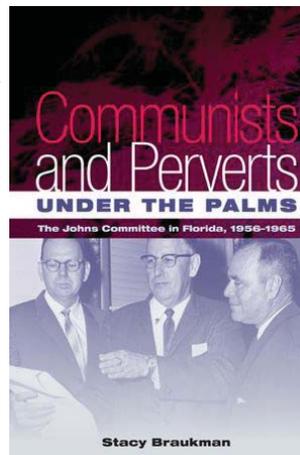
the national “witch-hunts” led by Senator Joseph McCarthy. The committee proceeded to seek out anyone in academic institutions suspected of communist or homosexual tendencies, including faculty and students at USF.

In addition to targeting individuals for their sexual preferences, the Johns Committee made severe attacks on academic freedom by attempting to censor classroom content that was deemed indecent, obscene, or subversive. By 1963, the committee's witch-hunts had resulted in the firing of

39 professors and deans, the revocation of 71 public school teaching licenses, and the expulsion of dozens of students from Florida public colleges.

Braukman's talk promises to be an enlightening and provocative presentation, especially in light of current political interference in higher education in our state. Her talk will be held in the C.W. Bill Young Building (CWY) in room 206 and begins at 7:00pm Her lecture will be followed by a reception and book signing outside the auditorium.

Braukman's presentation is co-sponsored by the United Faculty of Florida, USF Chapter.



Our speakers include Kevin McCarthy, Professor Emeritus from University of Florida and noted expert on local history; Karen Glaser, the 2010 Tampa Photographer Laureate, who created a magnificent portfolio on the Hillsborough; USF scholars



Brent Weisman (Anthropology) who will offer a guided archaeological hike of the river; Phil Levy (History) speaking on the early Spanish travels there; and Laura Runge (English), who will share her literary and photographic memoir of a year spent walking the river.

All the presentations will address human interaction with this natural resource, and the significance of the river and other wild places in the human imagination. In addition, the West Central Center of the Florida Public Archaeology Network, housed at USF, will present a day of history and archaeology downtown on the river – educational fun for everyone! River guide, Hadrian Alegarbes,

will lead an exciting canoe trip created specifically for our project. We will conclude on Nov. 7 with a special panel discussion, featuring *Tampa Bay Times* outdoors writer Terry Tomalin, USF St. Petersburg Florida Studies Director, Chris Meindl, Krista McKean from Lowry Park Zoo, Bob McDonough from the City of Tampa, and photography by Carol Kay.

Our program, funded partially through a Major Grant from the Florida Humanities Council, represents a partnership between USF, many community organizations and the City of Tampa. Although some events will take place at USF, our goal is to involve the community as much as possible, and many activities will happen off campus (see schedule). We believe that people who understand the rich human history of the

river may become more informed stewards of this precious natural resource.

All the events and resources will be shared with our community partners, which include the Hillsborough River State Park; Temple Terrace Preservation Society; Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful; Sulphur Springs Museum and Heritage Center; the River Watch Task Force; Crystal Springs Preserve; Lowry Park Zoo; and the City of Tampa Public Arts Program.

We invite you to join us for the events, and visit our developing website at www.hillsborough-river-connection.org. We'll be adding material now and into the future, and we also invite your contributions – old photos, documents, or anything else you'd like to share.



THE RIVER MEETS THE WEB

We invite you to visit the special website for “The Hillsborough River: Human Connections,” at www.hillsborough-river-connection.org. We're still building it, but it will be far more than a calendar of events. The site will feature historical photos, slide-shows from photographers Karen Glaser and Carol Kay, and other resources, including some unique short videos created especially for this project.

These 4-5 minute videos feature historical vignettes on iconic River places, such as Crystal Springs, the Hillsborough River State Park, Sulphur Springs, the Temple Terrace Bat Tower, and downtown Tampa. We'll include links to our many community partners and their websites, and the site will also offer interactive opportunities for visitors to contribute stories, photos, and other resources about the river. We'll add to it throughout the semester, and it will live on beyond the particular events in October and November. We hope you'll return often!

This project is partially funded by a grant from the Florida Humanities Council. Special thanks to the following community partners for their support.



THE THREE CRISES OF GLOBALIZATION

Signature Theme: Global Identities

The effects of globalization are a hot topic across the disciplines, but often overlooked are the perspectives from local communities worldwide. This fall, we are delighted to welcome Thomas Hylland Eriksen, from the University of Oslo, Norway, whose work seeks to correct that neglect.

Eriksen will speak on “Overheating: The Three Crises of Globalization,” using an anthropological perspective to address these crises: Finance/the economy; climate/the environment; and identity/culture. He notes: “In all three realms, frictions, political battles and schemes for their solution can be identified worldwide. As a common denominator for all three crises, the metaphor of overheating may be useful. It may indeed be said that a world where identities clash, stock markets ‘melt’ and global temperatures rise in an accelerated fashion, is an overheated one.”

In particular, he will focus on how these crises are experienced locally, since “local understandings and, accordingly, bids for solutions, differ.” Some of the case study questions he will address include: How do Andean peasants deal with their melting tropical glaciers? How do Malian traders react to the rise of militant Islamism in the east of their country? What do ordinary Icelanders do about the dire economic situation in which their country finds itself? He argues that “by studying local reactions to global crises, anthropology can add a crucial dimension to existing thinking about globalization, and this understanding may help nudge the world in a positive direction.”

Eriksen is an internationally renowned anthropologist, who has published many books, including *What Is*



Anthropology?; Engaging Anthropology; Globalization: The Key Concepts; and Flag, Nation and Identity in Europe and America. He is well known as a public intellectual, who contributes often to the popular media, with a particular expertise on multiculturalism and citizenship issues. He was in great demand in the aftermath of the 2011 massacre in Norway, and had planned to speak about that issue at USF last year until prevented by illness. We’re very pleased that he can join us this year. The talk will be at 7 p.m. Nov. 8, in CWY 206 (Military Science Building). Join us for a wine and cheese reception after the talk. This ResearchOne event is co-sponsored by the Department of Anthropology.

ResearchOne
ONE UNIVERSITY : ONE COMMUNITY : ONE VISION

SCIENCE AND THE NATURE OF THE UNEXPLAINED

Signature Theme: Science, Medicine, and Culture

If you’ve ever wondered about the truth behind claims of the supernatural and paranormal, we invite you to join writer and scientific paranormal investigator Benjamin Radford as he explores “unexplained mysteries” in his talk “Reflections on a Decade of Paranormal Investigation.”



Radford is deputy editor of *Skeptical Inquirer* science magazine and a Research Fellow with the

non-profit educational organization the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry. He has written hundreds of articles on a wide variety of topics, including urban legends, the paranormal, critical thinking, and media literacy, and is the author of six books, including *Hoaxes, Myths, and Manias: Why We Need Critical Thinking* (with sociologist Robert E. Bartholomew); *Scientific Paranormal Investigation: How to Solve Unexplained*

Mysteries; and his most recent, *Tracking the Chupacabra: The Vampire Beast in Fact, Fiction, and Folklore*.

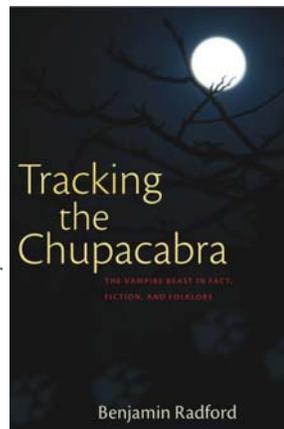
In his talk, Radford will address topics such as ghosts, Bigfoot, crop circles, and psychic powers. What does science say about the evidence for these? What is the nature of the “unexplained”? And why is there still debate about these issues? He welcomes both skeptics and believers, and there will be plenty of time for audience interaction.

Radford is a regular columnist for *LiveScience.com*, *Discovery News*, and *Skeptical Inquirer*. He created “Playing Gods: The Board Game of Divine Domination,” the world’s first satirical board game of religious warfare, and he has made two short films: *Clicker Clatter* (2007), and *Sirens* (2009). He has appeared on the Discovery Channel, the History Channel, the

National Geographic Channel, the Learning Channel, CBC, BBC, and CNN, and served as a consultant for the MTV series *The Big Urban Myth Show* and the CBS crime drama *CSI*. His webpage is: <http://benjaminradford.com/>

According to HI Director Elizabeth Bird, “this talk speaks to our signature theme of ‘Science, Medicine and Culture.’ Ben applies scientific methods and standards to his investigations, and shows the importance of scientific literacy in a world where we are all barraged by misinformation and half-truths. He models critical thinking through informative and entertaining examples.”

Radford will speak 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 16, in the TECO Room, College of Education. Join us for a wine and cheese reception at 6:30 p.m.; the author will be available to meet and sign books before and after the event.



FALL 2012 CALENDAR

September 5

Around the World in 60 Minutes Creative Writing Reading Grace Allen Room (Library). Refreshments, 4:00pm. Reading, 4:30pm

September 12

Homegrown Humanities Faculty Book Series

Abraham Khan: *Curt Flood in the Media: Baseball, Race, and the Demise of the Activist Athlete*

Grace Allen Room (Library). Refreshments, 4:00pm. Talk, 4:30pm

September 20

Stacy Braukman: *Communists and Perverts under the Palms: The Johns Committee in Florida, 1956-1965*

CWY 206, 7:00pm, reception to follow

October 10

Homegrown Humanities Faculty Book Series

Pablo Brescia: *Modelos y prácticas en el cuento hispanoamericano: Arreola, Borges, Cortázar*

Grace Allen Room (Library). Refreshments, 4:00pm. Talk, 4:30pm

October 16

Benjamin Radford: *Reflections on a Decade of Paranormal Investigation* TECO Room, Reception, 6:30pm, Lecture, 7:00pm

October 20 - November 7



Visit www.hillsborough-river-connection.org to register for the Oct. 27th archeological tour and the Oct. 28th canoe trip.

Oct. 20: 25th Annual Hillsborough River & Coastal Cleanup sponsored by Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful. **Visit the website** for times, locations, and volunteer opportunities.

Oct. 22: Kevin McCarthy: *Ten Little-known Facts About the Hillsborough River*. Patel Center Auditorium, 7:00pm, reception to follow

Oct. 25: Karen Glaser: *Above & Below Florida's Freshwaters* Patel Center Auditorium, 7:00pm, reception to follow

Oct. 27: Brent Weisman: *A Walk Through Time: Archeology and History on the Hillsborough River* ***Registration Required**
Depart from Morris Bridge Wilderness Trail at 8:00am

Oct. 28: Hadrian Alegarbes: *Guided Canoe Trip* USF Riverfront Boathouse, 10:00am ***Registration Required**

Oct. 30: Laura Runge, *A Year Spent on the Hillsborough River*. Grace Allen Room (Library), Reception: 3:30pm. Talk, 4:00pm

Nov. 1: Philip Levy: *Fellow Travelers: Spaniards and Natives on Florida's Early Trails*
Temple Terrace Community Church: 210 Inverness Ave., 7:00pm. *Co-sponsored by the Temple Terrace Preservation Society*

Nov. 3: Florida Public Archeology Network *Tampa Riverwalk Archeology Day*. Family-friendly events 10:00am - 3:00pm
MacDill Park on the Riverwalk: 100 N. Ashley St. Tampa

Nov. 7: Panel Discussion: *The River as a Resource for All*. Terry Tomalin (Tampa Bay Times), Chris Meindl (USF St. Pete, Florida Studies Director), Krista McKean (Lowry Park Zoo), Bob McDonaugh (City of Tampa), Photos by Carol Kay.
Patel Center Auditorium, 7:00pm, reception to follow

November 8

Thomas Hylland Eriksen: *The Three Crises of Globalization* CWY 206, Lecture, 7:00pm, reception to follow

November 13

Kenneth Seeskin: *Is Judaism Really Monotheistic? A Maimonidean Inquiry* ISA 7th Floor, 7:00pm

November 14

Homegrown Humanities Faculty Book Series

Andrew Berish: *Lonesome Roads and Streets of Dreams* Grace Allen Room (Library). Refreshments, 4:00pm. Talk, 4:30pm



Dear Friends of the Humanities Institute,

Thank you for helping make last year the most well attended in the history of the Humanities Institute!

The Institute fills a very real need at USF and in the Tampa Bay Community—providing a forum where ideas are debated, values are clarified, and students, faculty, and community members come together to envision a better world through scholarship, cross-disciplinary inquiry, and public programs.

We're proud of what we were able to accomplish in 2011-2012 and have ambitious plans for the upcoming year. We invite you to share in building a place where ideas may provoke and delight, engaging your sense of shared cultural citizenship.

The Institute needs your support to continue to provide high-quality programming. If you believe that the **humanities matter**, consider becoming a Humanities Institute patron. Every contribution helps us meet our annual programming expenses. Here's how your gift can help:

Did you know the Humanities Institute...

- Is responsible for raising 100% of its own programming costs?
- Had over 4,700 people attend events last year?
- Hosted its first international academic conference last year, with scholars visiting from 11 different countries?
- Coordinated the largest National Poetry Month celebration in the state?

- A \$50 gift can fund one Homegrown Humanities faculty book talk
- A \$200 gift can fund a lecture by an up-and-coming academic
- A \$500 gift can cover the travel expenses for a guest speaker
- A \$2,000 gift can pay the honorarium of a nationally known scholar
- A \$10,000 gift can fund a reading by a Pulitzer Prize winning author

Making a donation has never been easier. You can donate by check, using the attached envelope and the bottom of this form. You can even designate if you'd like your donation to go towards one of our "Signature Themes." Checks can be made payable to the "USF Foundation: Humanities Institute." You can also donate by visiting our website: <http://humanities-institute.usf.edu> and selecting the "DONATE to the Humanities Institute" link.

Thank you for your support!

S. Elizabeth Bird, Ph.D, Director

Yes! I want to support the Humanities Institute. Enclosed is my financial gift of \$ _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please apply my gift to the following HI Signature Theme:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Morality and Ethics in Public Life | <input type="checkbox"/> History, Myth, and Memory | <input type="checkbox"/> The Power of the Poetic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Science, Medicine, and Culture | <input type="checkbox"/> Issues in Popular Culture | <input type="checkbox"/> Global Identities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Focus on Florida | | |

FALL 2012 CO-SPONSORED EVENTS

The Humanities Institute often has the opportunity to co-sponsor events and this semester we're proud to support two initiatives by other academic departments.

Around the World in Sixty Minutes

Please join us on September 5th, in the Grace Allen Room of the library at 4:30pm, for the first event of a reading series that highlights the diverse and global nature of creative writing and translation at the University of South Florida. Faculty from the World Languages and English departments will join forces to take readers around the world in sixty minutes.

Each of four readers will present a short selection of poetry or prose that showcases another country or culture and/or takes the reader into another world—whether it be a foreign country, an alternate universe, or even cyberspace. This first event features the following readers:

Pablo Brescia, Reading: “The Twilight Zone” (prose/thought-poems)



Pablo Brescia, associate professor of Latin American literature, was born in Buenos Aires and has lived in the United States since 1986. He is the author of the story collections *La apariencia de las cosas* [*The Appearance of*

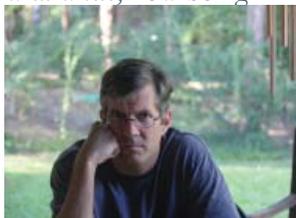
Things] (Mexico, 1997) and *Fuera de lugar* [*Out of Place*] (Peru, 2012) and of the book of thought-poems *No hay tiempo para la poesía* [*No Time for Poetry*] (Argentina, 2011) with the pseudonym Harry Bimer. His stories have also been published in books and literary journals in Cuba, Mexico, Peru, Spain and the United States.

John Henry Fleming, Reading: “In the Shadow of the World’s Greatest Monument to Love” (fiction)

John Henry Fleming, associate professor of English, is the author of a novel, *The Legend of the Barefoot Mailman*, a literary bestiary,

Fearsome Creatures of Florida, and the serial novel *The Book I Will Write*, now being

published in twice weekly installments at the Atticus Books website. He’s editing *15 Views*



of Tampa Bay, a linked story collection featuring Tampa Bay’s best writers, which is being released in weekly installments at the Burrow Press Review website. He’s also the founder and advisory editor for *Saw Palm*, USF’s Florida-themed literary journal.

Hunt Hawkins, Reading: “The Havana Psychiatric Hospital” (poetry)

Hunt Hawkins, professor and chair of the English Department, won the Agnes



Lynch Starrett Prize and published a book of poems, *The Domestic Life*, with the University of Pittsburgh Press in 1994. His poems have appeared in *Poetry*, *The Southern Review*, *The*

Georgia Review, *Tri-Quarterly*, *The Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Minnesota Review*, *Poetry Northwest*, and many other magazines; they also have been read on national radio by Garrison Keillor. Hawkins won the Florida Individual Artist Fellowship in 1993 and 1998.

Victor Peppard, Reading: “The Kingdom Come Bomb” (fiction)

Victor Peppard, professor of Russian, is a short-story writer and translator as well as a scholar of Russian literature. His fiction includes “Babel’s Brighton Beach” in *Northeast Corridor*; his translations of Russian prose and poetry into English include works by Evtushenko. He is currently working on a number of stories, more translations of Russian poetry, and a memoir called “Faculty Brat Forever.”

This event is organized by Rita Ciresi and Pablo Brescia and co-sponsored by USF World.

Kenneth Seeskin to deliver Fall Baumgardner Gelbart Lecture

The Humanities Institute is proud to become a co-sponsor of the June Baumgardner Gelbart Lecture Series in Jewish Studies. The June Baumgardner Gelbart Foundation has made a generous gift to the University of South Florida to support semi-annual lectures in Jewish studies. The goal of the lecture series is to build interest in Jewish studies at USF and to contribute to the intellectual and cultural life of Tampa Bay.

Dr. Kenneth Seeskin, a professor of philosophy at Northwestern University, will speak on, “Is Judaism Really Monotheistic? A Maimonidean Inquiry.” Dr. Seeskin is one of the foremost scholars of Moses Maimonides, the twelfth century Andalusian legal thinker and philosopher who became the head of the Jewish community in Egypt and the court physician to Saladin. Maimonides argues that all of the commandments in the Torah are means to a single end: acceptance of monotheism. Are we sure we know what monotheism is? Dr. Seeskin will argue that belief in one God is NOT sufficient. The question then becomes: What else is required? How does Judaism ask its practitioners to think about God? The answer may surprise you.



Dr. Seeskin’s most recent book is *Jewish Messianic Thoughts in an Age of Despair* (Cambridge, 2012). His publications also include: *Maimonides on the Origin of the World* (Cambridge, 2005), *Autonomy in Jewish Philosophy* (Cambridge, 2001), *Searching for a Distant God: The Legacy of Maimonides* (Oxford, 2000), and *Jewish Philosophy in a Secular Age* (SUNY Press, 1990). The lecture will be held on the seventh floor of the Interdisciplinary Sciences Building at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, November 13.

Director's Statement Continued

that terrorized university faculty a few decades ago; the use of scientific principles to investigate claims of the paranormal; and globalization from the perspective of local communities around the world. And this Fall marks the launch of our first Focus on Florida program, with a series of events devoted to the Hillsborough River.

But we can still do better. Toward the end of the year, I sent a pilot survey to faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences, with a goal of finding out what we're doing well, and where we could improve. We

received responses from 88 faculty – not huge, but helpful anyway. It was sobering to learn that only about a half had attended at least one HI event that year, and about 20% confessed to having no idea what we do. At the same time, 77% thought the HI was very or somewhat important to the college and university. Many included positive and encouraging comments about programs, and provided useful suggestions. We're paying attention to all of them, whether flattering or not.

One thing we heard was a de-

sire for more USF speakers, providing forums where current research and new books could be presented. I hope our new monthly series "Homegrown Humanities" will help fill that gap, inviting faculty to speak about a recent book, while sharing wine and snacks with colleagues. We plan to redouble our efforts to get the word out to all faculty, staff, and students about our

programs. A regular challenge is finding the sweet spot between two of our most commonly heard complaints: "I never see any emails from the HI" and "I get

tired of seeing your flyers every day!"

We have been very happy to see our audiences not only grow but diversify, as we reach out through social media ("Like" us on Facebook, please!). We're seeing more students than ever before, and have been delighted to welcome people reached through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, as well as from many other members of the broader community.

We owe a big thanks to the USF Office of Research, led until this year by Dr. Karen Holbrook, and now by Dr.

The goal of the Humanities Institute is to provide a stimulating intellectual environment that will enrich our lives. The HI is one reason we are a true university, where such an environment extends beyond the classroom, connecting university to community, and building bridges across the disciplines.

Paul Sandberg. That office funds the HI Summer Grant program, which this year assisted 11 faculty members to work on cutting edge research – see their projects in this issue. We also want to thank the Office of the Provost for funding our Distinguished Visiting Fellow program which will begin in the spring.

Next year, we'll aim to try another survey to a broader audience – I know, for example, that many staff are loyal HI attendees and we'd like to hear your opinions too. Meanwhile, we are launching a "comments" feature on our website that will allow you to let us know your thoughts on our programs, website, or anything else. I'd especially like to hear ideas for particular speakers, topics, or formats for our events, so feel free to use the website feature, or email me directly: ebird@usf.edu.

The goal of the Humanities Institute is to provide a stimulating intellectual environment that will enrich our lives. The HI is one reason we are a true university, where such an environment extends beyond the classroom, connecting university to community, and building bridges across the disciplines. We invite you to participate and help us "Challenge, create, connect" in the coming academic year.



Photo: Karen Glaser. Part of *The Big Picture Project*, a collection of photos of the Hillsborough River, sponsored by the City of Tampa, Public Art Program. Glaser was the 8th Tampa Photo Laureate and completed her project in 2010. Don't miss her talk, "Above & Below Florida's Freshwaters," on Oct. 25 at 7:00pm in the Patel Center Auditorium.

HUMANITIES INSTITUTE 2012 SUMMER GRANT WINNERS

Thanks to funding by the **USF Office of Research and Innovation**, the Humanities Institute was able to provide funding for eleven faculty members to continue their research during the summer months. The advisory board reviewed a record number of applications this year from a wide variety of academic disciplines. We are very pleased to be able to support the research efforts of the following faculty members:

Garnet Butchart (Communication) *The Documentarian's I: Ethics and Israeli Filmmaking*

Madeline Camara (World Languages) *S(C)ites of Memory: Transatlantic Dialogues between María Zambrano, Lydia Cabrera and Inés María Mendoza*

Cass Fisher (Religious Studies) *As if it Could be Said: Reference and the Limits of Theological Language in Judaism*

Abraham Khan (Communication and Africana Studies) *Colorblind Imaginaries: The Symbolic History of Jackie Robinson*

Philip Levy (History) *Pedophilia, Rape, and the Washington Brothers: A Scandal Out of Time*

Diane Price-Herndl (English and Women's & Gender Studies) *Thinking Through Breast Cancer*

Joshua Rayman (Philosophy) *Nietzschean Destruction*

Amy Rust (Humanities & Cultural Studies) *"Passionate Detachment": Technologies of Vision & Violence in American Cinema, 1967 – 1974*

Heike Scharm (World Languages) *Time and Being in Javier Marías: A Reading of his Oxford Novels from the Perspective of Bergson and Heidegger*

Shirley Toland-Dix (English) *"Half the Story has Never Been Told": Black Atlantic Women Novelists, History, and Imagined Community*

Christian Wells (Anthropology) *Heritage Tourism on Roatán Island, Honduras*



USF FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

USF faculty break new ground in humanities research every year and we are pleased to begin highlighting a selection of notable achievements by College of Arts & Sciences faculty in our semester newsletters. The Institute subscribes to the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) definition: "The term 'humanities' includes, but is not limited to, the study of the following: language, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism and theory of the arts; those aspects of social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life."

CAS faculty who would like to have their work included in an upcoming HI newsletter can email a brief description to Liz Kicak at ekicak@usf.edu.

NEW BOOKS

- Alexopoulos, Golfo (History), Julie Hessler, and Kiril Tomoff, ed. *Writing the Stalin Era: Sheila Fitzpatrick and Soviet Historiography*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.
- Ashley, Keith, and Nancy White (Anthropology), ed. *Late Prehistoric Florida: Archaeology at the Edge of the Mississippian World*. UP of Florida, 2012.
- Basu, Ambar (Communication), ed. *Critical Cultural Studies in Global Health Communication*. Series. Left Coast Press, 2011.
- Bochner, Arthur (Communication), ed. *Writing Lives: Ethnographic Narratives*. Series. Left Coast Press, 2006 - present.
- Brescia, Pablo (World Languages). *Modelos y prácticas en el cuento hispanoamericano: Arreola, Borges, Cortázar. Serie Nuevos Hispanismos*. Madrid: Iberoamericana Vervuert Verlag, 2011.
- Butchart, Garnet (Communication), and Briankle Chang, ed. *Philosophy of Communication*. Cumberland: MIT Press, 2012.
- Cámara, Madeline (World Languages), and Luis Pablo Ortega. *María Zambrano: Palabras para el mundo*. Juan de la Cuesta-Hispanic Monographs, 2011.

- Cissna, Kenneth (Communication), ed. *Qualitative Communication Research*. Left Coast Press, 2012.
- Cizmic, Maria (Humanities & Cultural Studies). *Performing Pain: Music and Trauma in Eastern Europe*. Oxford UP, 2011.
- DeJonge, Michael (Religious Studies). *Bonhoeffer's Theological Formation: Berlin, Barth, and Protestant Theology*. Oxford UP, 2012.
- Dubrofsky, Rachel (Communication). *The Surveillance of Women on Reality TV: Watching The Bachelor and The Bachelorette*. Lexington Books, 2011.
- Gould, Marty (English). *Nineteenth-Century Theatre and the Imperial Encounter*. Routledge, 2011.
- Jackson, Antoinette T (Anthropology). *Speaking for the Enslaved: Heritage Interpretation at Antebellum Plantation Sites*. Left Coast Press, 2012.
- Khan, Abraham (Communication). *Curt Flood in the Media: Baseball, Race, and the Demise of the Activist Athlete*. UP of Mississippi, 2012.
- Novoa, Adriana (History), and Alex Levine (Philosophy). *Darwinistas!: The Construction of Evolutionary Thought in Nineteenth Century Argentina*. Vol. 27. Brill Academic Publishing, 2012.
- Madrigal, Lorena (Anthropology). *Statistics for Anthropology 2*. Cambridge UP, 2012.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Bird, Elizabeth (Anthropology). "Media Audiences in the Web 2.0 World: Are We All 'Producers' Now?" Distinguished Woman Scholar Lecture at the University of Maryland, as part of the NSF-funded ADVANCE program. 2011.
- Bochner, Arthur (Communication). "Coming to Narrative: Method and Method in a University Life." The Provost's Distinguished University Lecture Series. USF. Tampa. 2012.
- Bochner, Arthur (Communication). "Biographies: Between 'Professional' and 'Non-Professional' Dimensions of the Humanities." University of Lodz. Poland, Lotz. May 2012.
- Butchart, Garnet (Communication). "On Ethics and Morals in Documentary Cinema." Jerusalem Center for Ethics. Mishkenot Sha'ananim, Jerusalem. 2011.
- Cámara, Madeline (World Languages). "Cuban Women Writers and Cuban Culture and Postmodernism." Distinguished Lectureship at Case Western University. Cleveland. Spring 2012.
- Ellis, Carolyn (Communication). "Autoethnography, Narrative, and Collaborative Research." Applied Human Sciences Division. Concordia University, Montreal. March 2012.
- Ellis, Carolyn (Communication). "Autobiography, Biography, and Narrative." Biographic Perspectives in Researching Practice Conference. University of Lodz, Lodz. May 2012.
- Ellis, Carolyn (Communication). "Humanizing Social Science Research: Autoethnography, Reflexive Writing, and Collaborative Witnessing." International Conference. Graduate Student Communication Association. Wayne State University, 2011.
- Gould, Marty (English). "Staging an Empire." Conference on Province, Nation and Empire on the Victorian Stage. University of Birmingham. UK, July 2012.
- Khan, Abraham (Communication). "The Disciplinary History of Jackie Robinson." Baylor University Communication Week. 2011.
- Probes, Christine (World Languages). Invited Lecturer, Kunsthistorisches Institut. Germany, Kiel. 2012.
- Steier, Fred (Communication). "The Message: This is Serious Play - Bateson's Legacy for Learning Ecologies." An Ecology of Mind, organized in conjunction with screening of Nora Bateson's film, *An Ecology of Mind*. Norway, Oslo. August 2011.
- Tykot, Robert (Anthropology). 39th International Symposium on Archaeometry. Leuven, Belgium, 28 May-1 June 2012.

HONORS & AWARDS

- Basu, Ambar (Communication). Recipient, *Janice Hocker Rushing Early Career Research Award*, Southern States Communication Association. 2011.
- Cissna, Kenneth (Communication). Co-Recipient, *Distinguished Award for an Edited Scholarly Book*, Applied Communication Division, National Communication Association, November, 2010.
- Ellis, Carolyn (Communication). *Lifetime Achievement Award in Qualitative Inquiry* from The International Center for Qualitative Inquiry, 2012.
- Ellis, Carolyn (Communication). *Best Book in Qualitative Inquiry Award* from the International Center for Qualitative Inquiry 2010.
- Gould, Marty (English). *USF Outstanding Achievement in Research Award*. 2011.
- Probes, Christine (World Languages). Invited Guest Editor. *Emblems and Propaganda* and *Lieux de Culture dans la France du XVIIe Siècle*. 2012.
- Tykot, Robert (Anthropology). Elected as a *Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)*. 2011.
- Runge, Laura (English). Founding General Editor and Pedagogy Editor, *ABO: Interactive Journal for Women in the Arts*. 2011.
- Tykot, Robert (Anthropology). *President-Elect, 2011-2013*, for the International Society for Archaeological Sciences.

University of South Florida

Humanities Institute

4202 E. Fowler Ave., CPR 107
Tampa, FL 33620
Phone: 813.974.3657
Fax: 813.974.9409

Elizabeth Bird, Ph.D.
Director: ebird@usf.edu

Liz Kicak, M.F.A.
Assistant Director: ekicak@usf.edu

www.humanities-institute.usf.edu

SPRING 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

Spring 2012 brought a record number of people out to HI events. Nearly 3,500 people attended events on a variety of topics: human rights, Darwin Day, the apocalypse, and National Poetry Month.



Joe Haldeman and Nancy Kress sign books following an interdisciplinary panel discussion of the apocalypse.



Students prepare fresh organic food for the Poetry & Sustainability event.



Erica Dawson reads to a full house as part of National Poetry Month 2012.



Dr. Eugenie Scott speaking about evolution and the Florida education system.



E. Bird, F. Ottanelli with human rights conference keynoter, David Hawk. (Photo: A. Blodgett)



Former Mayor of Tampa, Pam Iorio, discusses the humanities and civic leadership.