

## A Letter From John Skvoretz Dean, USF College of Arts and Sciences

Friends and Colleagues,  
 I first want to thank you all for your support of the Humanities Institute. As the new Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, I am especially grateful. The Humanities Institute is one of the jewels in the crown of Arts & Sciences – it's nice to know it is so well thought of and respected. All the credit for that accomplishment goes to its Director Bill Scheuerle. He has done a magnificent job placing the Institute at the center of intellectual life on campus and in the community.



When I think of "the humanities," I think of arenas of human endeavor that ask questions that have no definitive answers, covering topics like the meaning of life, the proper

relationship between the individual and society, the nature of wisdom and morality, the roles of emotions and rationality in human affairs, the nature of justice. When I was young, I had little patience for such questions – if they had no definitive answers, what was the point of pondering them? Better to work on some calculus problems where the answers were in the back of the book.

But with age sometimes comes a little bit of wisdom. I now realize that such questions are like exercise equipment for the mind. Just as one's body never "solves" the problem posed by the exercise bicycle, rather working out on it develops and tones one's physical faculties, so too does pondering fundamental questions of human existence develop and tone one's mental faculties – intellectual, moral,

and civic. If we do not ponder such questions, our intellects become flaccid, our moral sensibilities stunted, and our senses of civic virtue atrophied.

We cannot let our faculties decay in this way, particularly since we now face unique and unprecedented challenges as globalization proceeds apace.

So the Humanities Institute is vital to our intellectual, moral, and civic health as a nation and a people, more so than ever. It provides multiple opportunities for each of us to "work out." It is University of South Florida's Gold's Gym for the mind. I urge you to take advantage of the opportunities the Institute provides – you, and our community will be stronger for it.

*Best wishes,*

*John Skvoretz, Dean*

## A Tale Of Hobbits Brown To Speak At USF In Fall

The Humanities Institute will present paleo-anthropologist Peter Brown for a public lecture on Thursday, Sept. 29 in the Marshall Center University Ballroom at 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Brown is an associate professor in the Department of Archeology and Paleo-anthropology at the University of New England in Australia. On the island of Flores in Indonesia, Dr. Brown and his team recently discovered the skeletal remains of eight members of a species of dwarf humans that lived, and may have co-existed with modern humans, some 18,000 years ago.

These diminutive creatures used primitive tools and hunted a now-extinct species of dwarf

*The discovery has "major repercussions for our understanding of human evolution."*

elephant. This species named *Homo floresiensis* has been nicknamed "hobbits" by the popular press and has been featured in articles in such magazines as *National Geographic News* and *Scientific American*.

According to Dr. Brown, his team's discovery has "major repercussions for our understanding of human evolution, touching on aspects of human migration, our interaction with

the environment, and conceptions of what it is to be human."

Dr. Brown's lecture – which will be of interest not only to a scientific audience but a general one – will discuss how our knowledge about who we are and where we came from is continually changing and adapting as new discoveries come to light.



# Director's Cut

## By Dr. Bill Scheuerle



Starting my third year as Director of the Humanities Institute, I am pleased to share with you some excellent news. Poet and artist Garry Fleming has recently designated the Humanities Institute the beneficiary of his estate. Presently valued at approximately \$700,000.00, the estate will enable the Humanities Institute and the College of Arts and Sciences to establish in Mr. Fleming's name both an annual national poetry contest and an annual poetry lecture/discussion by a nationally/internationally known poet. The Institute, the College, and the University thank Mr. Fleming for his generous support.

Fall semester 2005 will continue to offer the two series "A Main Event" and "The Great Books," which were begun last year, and lectures by visiting scholars and/or writers. Elsewhere in this *Newsletter* are articles on the September 29<sup>th</sup> event featuring Peter Brown (University of New England, Australia) and the November 3<sup>rd</sup> event featuring David Goodman (University of Illinois).

This semester on October 7 the Institute is co-sponsoring with the Public Art Program, Hillsborough County; the Pub-

lic Art Program, the City of Tampa; and the Institute for Research in Art, Public Art Program, College of Visual and Performing Arts, USF, a day-long symposium on "Art in the Public Realm: A Dialog" to be held at the Dr. Pallavi Patel Performing Arts Conservatory at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center.

Although art in the public realm has existed since antiquity, within the last several decades, public administrators, artists, elected officials, and the general public have started to debate not only the definition of "public art" but to question the significance and purposes of art in "public" spaces as to its economic impact to communities, and, in general, as to the legacy of art and its intrinsic value to the public. Is, for example, Public Art a permanent or a temporary object of installation? Or both? Is a permanent work of Public Art more valuable than a temporary work of Public Art? Does a work of art always reflect the community in which it is placed, or can it reflect only its own intrinsic quality? How does Public Art have context to a site? What does it say about community culture? What exactly is the relationship between Public Art and culture. These and other issues

relevant to how Public Art functions in our society today will be discussed at this symposium, which is free and open to the public.

The symposium will feature as moderator Jack Becker, Executive Director Forecast Public Artworks, St. Paul Minn., and editor of *Public Art Review Magazine*, three highly regarded visual artists who have extensive public art project experience, Janet Echelman, Audrey Flack, and Stacy Levy, and three University of South Florida scholars, Carolina Von Trapp, (Department of Anthropology), Michael Halflants (School of Architecture), and Brad Nickels (Art History) who will discuss "public art" from their academic perspectives.

I thank all of you for your support of the Humanities Institute, and I hope to see you at our upcoming Fall events. Already planned for the Spring semester is a talk by Jared Diamond, whose works *Guns, Germs, and Steel* and *Collapse* have been prominent on the *New York Times'* best seller lists. Dr Diamond, who teaches at the University of Los Angeles, will be on campus on March 2, 2006.

## Summer 2005 Research Grants

### Ten College Faculty Receiving Funding

For Summer 2005, the College of Arts and Sciences—through the Humanities Institute—awarded competitive research grants of \$5,000 (maximum) to 10 faculty members for research in the humanities.

These awardees and their research projects were as follows:

? Golfo Alexopoulos (History): "Stalin's Gulag and Soviet Society"  
? Gaetan Brulotte (World Language Education): "The Encyclopedia of Erotic Literature"  
? James P. D'Emilio (Humanities/American Studies): "The Inscriptions of Galician Romanesque Churches"

? Nicole Discenza (English): "Geography, Cosmology, and the Liberal Arts in the *Enchiridion* of Byrhtferth of Ramsey"

? Carolyn J. Eichner (Women's Studies): "Feminism's Empire: Feminism and Imperialism in Late Nineteenth-Century France"

? Cheryll Hall (Political Science): "Reason, Passion, and Gender in Theories of Deliberative Democracy"

? Jacqueline Messing (Anthropology): "Transnational Language Use, Indigenous Identity and Ideologies of Nahuatl-speaking Indigenous Mexican Migrants in Tlaxcala and the Northeast US"

? Deborah G. Plant (Africana Studies):

"Zora Neale Huston: A Biography of the Spirit"

? Martin Schönfeld (Philosophy): "Confucius and Kant—the Information Transfer from China to the West"

? Kevin A. Yelvington (Anthropology) "From the New Negro to the New World Negro: Melville J. Herskovits and the *Making of Afro-American Anthropology*"



# Advisory Committee Spotlight

The USF Humanities Institute is proud to have a 15-member Advisory Committee, including 13 USF faculty members, a graduate student, and a member of the community. Each newsletter highlights some of these dedicated members.

**Pablo Brescia** is a native of Buenos Aires, Argentina and emigrated to the United States in 1986. He received his B.A. in Philosophy and Literature and his Ph.D. in Hispanic Languages and Literatures from The University of California, Santa Barbara (2000).



He was an Assistant Professor of Spanish at the University of Texas at Austin (2000-2002) before joining USF. He has coedited and contributed to the following books: *El cuento mexicano* (Mexico, 1996), *Sor Juana y Vieira, trescientos años después* (Mexico-Santa Barbara, 1998) and *Borges múltiple: cuentos y ensayos de cuentistas* (Mexico, 1999).

Another edition, on the short story cycle in Latin America, will be out this fall. He is now finishing his manuscript on the history and theory of the Latin American

short story. His work has been published in books, journals and cultural reviews from Argentina, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Spain and the United States.

His main areas of teaching and research are the theory and history of Latin American short fiction; 20th century Mexican and Southern Cone narrative and Colonial Mexico. He also works on philosophy and literature and film and literature. While at USF, he chaired literature symposia on Pablo Neruda and Julio Cortázar and was invited to speak at the prestigious Modern Languages Association Radio Program *What's the Word?* about Jorge Luis Borges and parables.

**Silvia Ruffo Fiore**, Professor Emerita, received her Ph.D. in English and Comparative Literature with distinction from the University of Pittsburgh. She also matriculated at the University of Rome, Facolta'di lettere, on a Fulbright Fellowship and received post-doctoral training in the Italian language, culture, and literature at the Università per Straniere in Perugia, Italy.

She has been awarded numerous national and USF research grants and fellowships and teaching awards. In 2003 she received the Jerome Krivanek Dis-

tinguished Teacher award.

Her academic specialities are classical, medieval, and early modern comparative literature and interdisciplinary literary studies, with particular emphasis on Homer, Virgil, Dante, Boccaccio, Petrarch, and Machiavelli. She has also taught in the English Department Honors Program and is a member of the USF Honors College Faculty. During 2004-2005, she lead discussions on Machiavelli's *The Prince* and Dante's *Inferno* for the "Great Books" series sponsored by the Humanities Institute and the Alumni Association.

Professor Ruffo Fiore's scholarship includes such books as *Donne's Petrarchism: A Comparative View*, *Niccolo Machiavelli*, and *Annotated Bibliography of Modern Scholarship on Niccolo Machiavelli* and numerous refereed articles and book chapters in English and Italian.

Her current projects include *Renaissance Humanism, and the Education of Women in Italian Courts and Image, Imagining, and Imagination in Machiavelli*.



## 2005 Student Conference on American Philosophy

November 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>

at the University of South Florida

With a keynote address

"The Legitimacy of Metaphysics: Kant's Legacy to Peirce, and Peirce's to Philosophy Today"

by **Dr. Susan Haack**

Cooper Senior Scholar in Arts and Sciences, Professor of Philosophy & Professor of Law, University of Miami

Contact: C. Kirby, USF Philosophy Dept.

4202 E. Fowler Ave., FAO 226 or ckirby@mail.usf.edu

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# Graduate Student's Nook

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In order to show the diversity of the research being done by graduate students in the humanities, this issue outlines the research of three graduate students: Izabel Galliera, Art History, and Jason Campbell and Chioke l'Anson, Philosophy.

## ***Negotiating Artistic Identity Through Satire: subREAL, 1989-1999***

By Izabel Galliera

### MA Thesis Research Summary:

This study explores satirical humor in major art works created during the nineteen-nineties by the Romanian collective subREAL, composed of Calin Dan (b. 1955) and Josif Kiraly (b. 1954). Their art is seen as actively engaging the Romanian local context of the 1990s, a time of great political, economical, social and cultural transformation. The fall of the Berlin Wall

on November 6, 1989 initiated the dismantling of the Communist regime in Eastern and Central Europe, when each nation—including Romania—began their individual journey from a totalitarian regime towards democracy. Additionally, this research study addresses the reception of subREAL's art in two major exhibitions of art from Eastern Europe: *Beyond Belief: Contemporary Art from East and Central Europe* (Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, 1995) and *After the Wall: Art and Culture in Post-Communist Europe* (Moderna Musee, Stockholm, Sweden, 1999).

### ***"Beyond Gender Essentialism and the Social Construction of Gender: Redefining the Conception of Gender through a Reinvestigation of Transgender Theory"***

By Jason Campbell and Chioke l'Anson

Philosophy PhD students. Presented at the Society for Women's Advancement in Philosophy Conference Spring 2005.

Our analysis is intended to critique the notion that gender is essential in the construction of an individual's identity. The supposed association between biological sex and sociological gender identification comes into question when discussing members of the transgender community, since their "femininity" and/or "masculinity" do not coincide with their sex. Sexual reassignment surgery reinforces gender essentialist notions, which is problematic since neither gender essentialism nor social constructionism has effectively incorporated transsexualism as an integral theoretical conception. Our analysis serves to explicate these complications and offer an accommodating account of transgender theory.

## Publications and Awards

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### Publications

English: **Pat Rogers.** *The Alexander Pope Encyclopedia.* Greenwood Press, 2004; *The Letters, Life and Works of John Oldmixon: Politics and Professional Authorship in Early Hanoverian England,* Edwin Mellen Press, 2004; *The Symbolic Design of "Windsor-Forest": Iconography, Pageant, and Prophecy in Pope's Early Work,* Univ. Delaware Press, 2004.

Philosophy: **Roger Ariew.** *Blaise Pascal's Pensees.* Hackett Publishing Co, 2005.

World Language Education: **Manuel Sosa-Ramirez.** *El Nuevo Teatro Español Latinoamericano.* Society of Spanish and Spanish-American Studies, University of Colorado, 2004. **Ava Chitwood.** *Death by Philosophy,* Univ. Michigan Press, 2004. **Ippokratis Kantzios.** *The Trajectory of Greek Trimeters,* Brill Academic Publishers, 2005.

### Awards

Government and International Affairs: **Michael Gibbons'** paper "Rorty, Politics and the Idea of Literary Culture" was nominated for the Best Paper in the Politics and Literature Section at the American Political Science Association.

History: **William Cumming's** *Making Blood White: Historical Transformations in Early Modern Makassar* (Univ. Hawaii's Press, 2002) won the 2004 Harry J. Benda Prize sponsored by the Association for Asian Studies and presented annually to an outstanding new scholar in any discipline who specializes in Southeast Asian studies. It also won the 2004 Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society's Best First Book Award presented annually for the best book in any field of history. **David Johnson's** *The Lavender Scare: The Cold War Persecution of Gays and Lesbians in the Federal Government* (Univ. Chicago Press, 2003) received the 2004 Herbert Hoover Book Award and the Randy Shilts Award for Gay Nonfiction (Publishing Triangle) besides, as previously announced in the Spring 2005 Humanities Institute Newsletter, the 2004 Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award. **Philip Levy's** article "A New Look at an Old Wall: Indians, Englishmen, Landscape 1634 Palisade at Middle Plantation" won the 2004 William E. Rachel Award from the Virginia Historical Society for the best article in *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* for 2004.

School of Mass Communications: **Randy Miller** was selected by the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Newspaper Division as the Outstanding Educator for 2005. **Tim Bajkiewicz** was awarded second place in the "Promising Professor" competition by the AEJMC Mass Communication and Society Division.

Women's Studies: **Carolyn Eichner** was invited to present her research entitled "Louise Michel, figure de la transversalite" at an international conference sponsored by the Université de Paris - Sorbonne.

World Language Education: **Gaetan Brulotte** has been named Distinguished University Professor and has also been elected to the prestigious French society *Ecrivains Associés du Théâtre*. **Roberta Tucker** was editor of a special edition of the *Journal of Consciousness* entitled "The Unbearable Solitude of Consciousness."

The School of Library and Information Science was awarded a Museum and Library Services Grant of \$758,736.00 to fund library science masters students interested in working for academic libraries. More information at [www.cas.usf.edu/lis/alstars/grant.html](http://www.cas.usf.edu/lis/alstars/grant.html).

# Schedule of Events

**September 21 “A Main Event”:**  
An evening with **Bob Ingalls** (History Department) and **Susan Fernandez** (USF St.Pete-History Department) discussing their upcoming book, *Sunshine in the Dark: Florida in the Movies*  
Grace Allen Room, 4th Floor of USF Tampa Library  
Light reception at 5:30 p.m., talk at 6 p.m.



**September 29** An evening with Paleo-Anthropologist **Peter Brown**  
*Discovery, Story, and Implications of Homo Floresiensis-The Hobbits*  
Marshall Center Ballroom  
7 pm

**October 4** **Great Books Series** with **Larry Broer** (Professor Emeritus: English Department) Ernest Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*  
Traditions Hall, Alumni Center at 6pm  
Admission Fee  
Co-Sponsored by the Alumni Association



**October 7** **Art in the Public Realm: A Dialog**  
Open forum about what is public art moderated by **Jack Becker**, Executive Director of Forecast Public Art Works, St. Paul Minnesota with sculpture artists **Audrey Flack, Janet Echelman, and Stacey Levy**.  
Scholar responses by **Carolina Von Trapp** (Anthropology), **Brad Nickels** (Art History), and **Michael Halfants** (Architecture)  
Dr. Patel Performing Arts Conservatory, Tampa  
10am-3:30pm

**November 3** A Talk by **David Goodman**, Japanese Culture Scholar (University of Illinois) entitled “The Protocol of the Elders of Zion in Japan. Why is it popular and what does it mean?”  
Grace Allen Room  
Noon-1 pm  
Co-Sponsored by the World Languages Dept.

**November 15** **Great Books Series** with Bill Scheuerle (Professor Emeritus: English Department and Humanities Institute Director)  
Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*  
Traditions Hall, Alumni Center at 6pm  
Admission Fee  
Co-Sponsored by the Alumni Association



*All events are free and open to the public unless specified. For more information call 974-3657.*

## Florida in the Movies By Bob Ingalls, USF Department of History

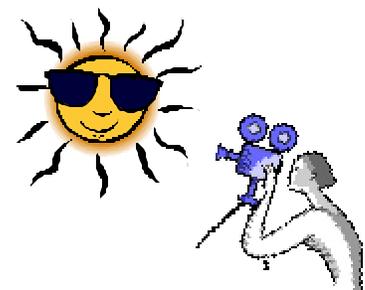
*Sunshine in the Dark: Florida in the Movies*, a forthcoming book by Susan Fernandez and Robert Ingalls, looks at how films have portrayed Florida and its people from the silent era to the present. Florida has meant many different things to people, and filmmakers have played a part in either reinforcing or dispelling popular images of the state and its people.

The book examines the settings, plots, and characters of over 300 films about

Florida. Directed at general readers with an interest in perceptions of Florida, the book analyzes changing cinematic images of Florida and Floridians.

The authors will discuss how research is fundamental to the creation process of writing by sharing some of their investigative stories. Audience members are encouraged to participate in the question and answer section following the talk. A light reception begins at 5:30pm with the program starting at 6pm in the Grace

Allen room on the 4th floor of the Tampa Library on September 21. RSVP on-line at [www.cas.usf.edu/humanitiesInstitute/](http://www.cas.usf.edu/humanitiesInstitute/).



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*"There are obviously two educations. One  
should teach us how to make a living and the  
other how to live."*

- James Truslow-Adams

*Humanities are, without a doubt, the core of  
that second aim of education.*

## Japanese Views: The Holocaust to Hiroshima Cultural Specialist Upcoming Lecture



David Goodman, Professor of East Asian Languages and Culture at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, will lecture on November 3, at noon, at the Grace Allen

Room in the USF Library Building on **"The Protocols of the Elders of Zion in Japan: Why is It Popular, and What Does It Mean?"**

Professor Goodman is internationally famous for his studies of Japanese culture. His research has focused on a comparison of the attitudes of the Japanese to Hiroshima and to the Holocaust.

*The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, a forgery made by the Russian Secret Police (Okhrana) in late 19<sup>th</sup> century Paris,

describes a Jewish plan for global domination.

The history of the piece traces back to the German novelist Hermann Goedsche, who borrowed from Maurice Joly's French work *Dialogues in Hell Between Machiavelli and Montesquieu* (1864) against Napoleon III, to create his anti-Semitic work. The Russian translation of Goedsche book was used by Czar Nicholas II's secret police to support their discrimination against the Jews.

Despite the exposure of the *Protocols* as a forgery in the early 1920s, reproductions circulated throughout the world and spread anti-Semitism. Most notably, in *Mein Kampf* Adolf Hitler accepted the *Protocols* as proof of a "Jewish conspiracy" and used it as justification for Nazi persecution of the Jews during WWII.

Dr. Goodman's lecture will focus on

the Japanese views of the Protocols. He notes that this year is the 100th anniversary of the publication of *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.



*Protocols of  
the Elders  
1987 Japanese edition*