Friday Bulletin, January 11, 2013

Department of Religion, University of Florida

Events

Larry Clayton, Professor of History at the University of Alabama, will be visiting UF on January 23-24, 2013. He will be talking about his recent biography of Bartolomé de Las Casas (Cambridge 2012). A specialist in colonial and Andean Latin America, he has also worked on US Peruvian relations, the history of WR Grace, the Spanish presence in the Southeastern Borderlands, and has a new project on the “air war” of the Bay of Pigs in which he has interviewed participants on both sides of the conflict. His lecture will be Thursday afternoon on January 24, in the Smathers Library East, Room 1A.

“Emergent Brazil,” the 62nd Annual Conference of the Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida, in association with the Centro de Pesquisa e Documentação de História Contemporânea do Brasil, Fundação Getúlio Vargas, will take place at the University of Florida on February 14 & 15, 2013. The conference will provide more than two dozen informed perspectives focusing on Brazil’s increasing visibility in the global stage, covering topics from Amazonia to urban studies, from religion and culture to contemporary politics. For the conference program, see: [http://www.latam.ufl.edu/News/conference.stm](http://www.latam.ufl.edu/News/conference.stm)

Maimonides Symposium

“Maimonides: Faith, Doubts and Secrets,” a symposium at the University of Florida, will feature speakers Professor Kenneth Seeskin (Northwestern University), Professor Edward C. Halper (University of Georgia), and Dr. Daniel Davies (University of Cambridge). This symposium is chaired by Professor Nina Caputo (University of Florida, Department of History), with comments by Dr. Yehuda Halper (Tulane University), and is sponsored by the Center for Jewish Studies; the Department of Philosophy; the Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica; the Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere; and the Department of Religion, University of Florida.

Professor Kenneth Seeskin (Northwestern University) will give a talk on “Is Judaism Really Monotheistic? A Maimonidean Inquiry,” on February 11, 2013, in Smathers Library, Room 1A, from 7:30 – 9:00 pm. This lecture is sponsored by the Bruce I. Greenberg Endowment in Jewish Studies at the Center for Jewish Studies and the Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica, University of Florida.

Professor Daniel Davies (University of Cambridge) will give a lecture on “Hidden Heresies, Obfuscation, Appropriation: What *is* all the fuss about Maimonides” on February 13th, 2013, at the University of Florida Hillel from 7:00 – 8:00 pm. This event is sponsored by the Isser and

News

Professor Terje Østebo was invited to give a talk, “Islam – the Basic Tenets,” at the Oak Hammock, Gainesville, January 8, 2013.

Professor Terje Østebo was interviewed by the Jane’s Intelligence Review (UK) on January 9, 2013.

Professor Bron Taylor will teach a special topics course on religion, nature, and popular culture this summer for the University of Colorado’s “Faculty in Residence Summer Term (FIRST) program,” which brings “world class faculty” to the Boulder Campus. See (p. 6) [http://www.colorado.edu/summer/downloads/summer2013.pdf](http://www.colorado.edu/summer/downloads/summer2013.pdf)

Professor Zoharah Simmons will be interviewed on camera for the upcoming PBS documentary on the 1964 Mississippi Freedom Summer, in which she was a participant, on January 16, 2013 in New York City. The film is expected to air in 2014. This new documentary is being produced and directed by Stanley Nelson, the acclaimed and award winning director who has produced numerous notable films including: [Freedom Riders](2011), [Jonestown: The Life & Death of People’s Temple](2006), [The Murder of Emmett Till](2003), [A Place of Our Own](2004), [Sweet Honey in the Rock: Raise Your Voice](2005), and [Wounded Knee](2009).

PhD student Gayle Lasater Pagnoni, is a replacement professor for Cultural History of American Religion at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA, Spring 2013 semester. Congratulations, Gayle!

Congratulations to Religion MA students Kelsie Stewart, Sarah Moczygemma, and Vickie Machado, who have been invited to present their papers at the 12th Annual Graduate Student Symposium, held at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida, on Friday, February 22, to Sunday, February 24, 2013. This year’s symposium will be centered on the theme “Politics of Religion.”

New Course

The CHEROKEE NATION HISTORY COURSE is being offered to the UF community, residents of Gainesville, and surrounding areas. This is a two-weekend intensive course, nationally-acclaimed, which has been given at numerous universities throughout the USA, including Harvard University. Dates for the course are Jan. 26-7 and Feb. 9-10, 2013. Spaces are still available. As taught for twelve years at the Cherokee Nation, the original Cherokee Nation History Course has received widespread acclaim from the thousands of tribal employees and community members who have participated in it. Now as part of an ongoing initiative to understand our tribal culture, sovereignty, and identity, Cherokee Nation citizens and the general public are invited to enrich their understanding of the Cherokee government and people. Registration is FREE for UF students!! ($30 Registration fee for non-students)
The registration form must be received by 5:00 P.M., January 23, 2013.
For the registration form and more information about receiving course credit, contact Professor Robin Wright, Native American Studies (NAS) program, University of Florida (rowrightrobin@yahoo.com or 392-1625). This course is sponsored by the Cherokee PINS Project: Education for Sovereignty, the Cherokees of Central Florida, and the Native American Studies program, College of Liberal Arts, University of Florida.

**Upcoming Deadlines**

We are still collecting updated bios from faculty and graduate students to post on the new website. Please submit revised bios to Alysia Radder (aradder@ufl.edu).

Compiled by Anne Newman
Edited by Mario Poceski