Friday Bulletin, November 15, 2013

Department of Religion, University of Florida

Upcoming Lectures

The Center for the Study of Hindu Traditions (CHiTra) and the School of Music at the University of Florida present: A Carnatic Music Concert featuring Dr. Lalitha Muthuswamy (violin) and accompanied by Keshav Nelavai (mridangam) & Kevin Singh (tabla); and a Lecture-Demonstration on South Indian Classical Music by Dr. Lalitha Muthuswamy. The time and place for the Carnatic Music Concert is tonight, November 15, 2013, from 7:30-9:00 pm in MUB 121, University of Florida. The lecture & demonstration was today, Friday, November 15, from 9:35-10:25am in MUB 101, University of Florida. Dr. Lalitha Muthuswamy is a violinist and a Fulbright-Nehru fellow at the University of Iowa. She is also the director of the MS Academy of Global Music. Dr. Lalitha, as she is popularly known, performs south Indian classical, western classical, as well as fusion music. She received her PhD in Music from the University of Madras and was awarded her first Fulbright in Performing Arts in 2005.

On Monday, November 18, 2013, Intercultural Engagement presents: A Casual Community Conversation, “The Hollywood Indian: Debunking Native American Stereotypes in Media,” plus personal accounts from two UF native students Marcus Briggs-Cloud (Ph.D. student, UF Interdisciplinary Ecology, Maskoke Nation) and Kevin Bitsie (UF graduate student, Epidemiology, Navajo Nation). An excerpt from documentary “Reel Injun” will be presented, an insightful look at the portrayal of North American Natives in cinema. The tentative time and place for this event will be at the Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures (La Casita), 1504 W. University Ave., from 6:30–8:00pm.

On Tuesday, November 19, Intercultural Engagement, the Departments of Religion and Anthropology, and the Native Studies program present: “Keeping and Recovering Native American Traditions: Challenges in the Contemporary Situation,” with hosts Daniel Morris (Cherokee Nation), Wathla Revclohe (Poet and Songwriter, Yuchee Nation), and Tommy Wildcat (Cherokee Nation, cultural promoter, flutist, historical storyteller, lecturer, and traditionalist). The time and place for this event is the Department of History conference room 5, 6:30–9:00pm.

Presentations

Professor Mario Poceski gave a public lecture at the University of Hamburg on the topic of “The Fortunes and Misfortunes of Buddhism in Modern China” on November 13, 2013.

Professor Mario Poceski organized and presided over the “Modes of Interreligious Engagement: Buddhism and other Religious Traditions in Medieval China” symposium, held at the University of Hamburg (Germany), Nov 7-9, 2013. Participants included T. Kleeman (U Colorado), S. Eskildsen (U Tennessee, Chattanooga), A. Heirman (U Ghent), S. Zacchetti (Oxford), M.
Radich (Victoria U of Wellington), and S. Döll (U München). He also gave the keynote lecture that opened the symposium: “Pattern of Interreligious Interaction in Tang China.”

Professor Bron Taylor has been invited to be a keynote speaker at for the 6th African Association for the Study of Religion Conference, with the theme “Religion, Ecology, and the Environment in Africa and the African Diaspora,” which will be held at the University of Cape Town, July 31-August 3, 2014. Conference Information

Professor Manuel Vásquez has been invited to be the keynote speaker at the annual conference of the Sociology of Religion Study Group of the British Sociological Association at the University of Sussex, July 2-4, 2014.

Professor Terje Ostebo gave two invited talks in Addis Ababa. The first talk, on November 5, 2013, was entitled “The History and Features of Salafism in Ethiopia” for the Ethiopian International Institute for Peace and Development and senior Ethiopian government officials. The second talk, on November 6, 2013, was entitled “Salafism and Islamic Extremism in Ethiopia” for the European Commission Delegation’s Human Rights and Democracy Sub-group.


Professor Vasudha Narayanan gave a talk and led the pre-performance discussion on the “Heritage of Manganiyar Seduction” at the Phillips Center for Performing Arts on Wednesday, November 6, 2013.

Two weeks ago, MA student Alysia Radder presented a paper entitled, "Is Spaghetti Vedic? Constructing a Meal in the Hare Krishna Movement," at the annual ISKCON Studies Conference in Radhadesh, Belgium. The theme of this year's conference was "Person & Community in Vaishnava Thought & Practice." Based on her thesis research, her presentation discussed how food laws and recipes within the Gaudiya-Vaishnava community have served as powerful symbols of authenticity and tradition and, at other times, innovation, transformation, and strategic assimilation, since the tradition's formative years in early-modern south Asia.

Publications


News

Professor Terje Ostebo was interviewed by BBC Focus on Africa about the contemporary state-Islam relations in Ethiopia on November 5, 2013.
Deadlines

The applications for Spring 2014 Travel Support for Graduate Students, for the period January 1 – May 1, 2014, are due in the Dean’s office by 4:00pm on Monday, November 25, 2013. The application is available on the web at http://www.clas.ufl.edu/forms/index.html. Since the graduate studies committee will have to evaluate and rank the applications before forwarding them to CLAS, please submit a copy of your application by email to Annie by 4:00pm on Tuesday, November 19, 2013.