

Friday Bulletin, January 16, 2015

Department of Religion, University of Florida

News and Upcoming Events

Our department's first **Graduate Student Conference**, entitled "Religion and Culture in the Digital Age," will be held next Saturday on January 24, 2015. Registration and breakfast will start at 8:00am in Pugh Hall 170, and the first panel will begin at 9:00am (also in Pugh 170). Following the students' panels, we will have a roundtable discussion with Dr. **David Morgan** from Duke University, Dr. **Stewart Hoover** from the University of Colorado, Dr. **Sid Dobrin** from UF's English department, and Dr. **Dragan Kujundzic** from UF's Center for Jewish Studies. Directly after the roundtable discussion, we will have a reception at Keene Faculty Center. The program and speaker list can be found at <http://religion.ufl.edu/event/religion-and-culture-in-the-digital-age/>. There will be several students presenting from our department as well as four students visiting from other universities so please come out and support the conference!

In addition to the panels and the roundtable discussion, the graduate students will also meet with Dr. David Morgan and Dr. Stewart Hoover for lunch at 12:30. Lunch will be provided by the department so please contact Prea at ppersaud@ufl.edu to RSVP.

Presentations

Professor **Vasudha Narayanan** will present two lectures: *Global Hindu Traditions: Cambodia (9th-12th Centuries CE)* and *Global Hindu traditions: America (19th-21st Centuries CE)* at the K R CAMA ORIENTAL INSTITUTE, Mumbai, India on January 15, 2015. For more information, see <http://www.krcamaorientalinstitute.org/eventdetails.php?id=6&events=futureevents>

Professor **Vasudha Narayanan** will give the final response ("Valedictory Address") to the papers presented in the two day conference on Cultural Dialogues Between India And Southeast Asia From The 7th To The 16th Centuries to be held on January 17 and 18, 2015, by The KR Cama Institute, Mumbai, India.

Professor **Zoharah Simmons** will give a public lecture on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at Adams University in Alamosa, Colorado as part of their Martin Luther King Week of activities. Her talk, titled: "Martin Luther King, The Inconvenient Hero" will be given on January 22, 2015 in Adam's University's Carson Auditorium in the Student Union Building at 7:00pm.

Professor **Terje Ostebo** gave an (invited) talk entitled "Faith in the Ethiopian Developmental State" during the meeting *Toward Better International Policy Making: Understanding the Role of Religion in the Horn of Africa*. The meeting was organized by the Berkeley Center for Religion, Peace & World Affairs, The University of Leeds, the British Council, and the Institute for Global Engagement, and took place in Washington, DC, January 15-16, 2015.

Alumni News

Sean O'Neil (graduated with a PhD in Religion, Americas track, in 2012) has accepted a continuing position as Visiting Assistant Professor in the Cultural Studies of Sport at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where he will teach a diverse set of graduate and undergraduate courses--including, Ethics in Sports; Critical Perspectives on the Body; Sport, Power and Inequality; and Women, Gender Relations and Sports. For his work on the intersection of disability, sports, and religion, Sean has also been offered a Research Associateship with the Centre for the Study of Sport and Health at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Congratulations, Sean!

Deadlines

UF's Center for Latin American Studies announces . . .

FLAS 2015-2016 Academic Year Fellowships

Through support from the U.S. Department of Education, the Center for Latin American Studies offers Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Academic Year Fellowships to support training in Brazilian Portuguese and Haitian Creole.

For graduate students, the fellowship covers tuition and fees for 12 graduate credit hours per semester, provides a stipend of \$17,000 total for the 2015-16 academic year (fall 2015 and spring 2016 semesters), and includes GatorGradCare coverage.

For undergraduate students, the fellowship covers tuition and fees not already covered by other financial aid or scholarships (up to a maximum of \$10,000 for the academic year) and provides a scholarship of \$5000 total for the 2015-16 academic year (\$2500 each for the fall 2015 and spring 2016 semesters).

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be (or applying to become) full-time UF graduate or undergraduate students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Undergraduate applicants must have at least intermediate proficiency in Portuguese or Haitian Creole. There is no proficiency requirement for graduate applicants. Priority will be given to applicants pursuing a Master's degree, graduate certificate, or undergraduate minor/certificate in Latin American Studies. Professional school students are also encouraged to apply. Applications are reviewed by the Center's Financial Aid Committee.

Fellowship Requirements

Each semester, recipients must enroll in a minimum of 3 credit hours of Portuguese or Haitian Creole and at least 3 credits of Latin American area studies. Recipients are also required to take language proficiency exams and to complete online reports about their fellowship on a semester basis.

After the fellowship period is completed, recipients will complete a short survey about their job placement every two years.

Application Deadline

February 6, 2015

Application Materials

To apply for a FLAS Academic Year Fellowship, please submit the following:

- [FLAS Academic Year Fellowship Application](#)
- Two page statement of purpose describing how the study of Brazilian Portuguese or

Haitian Creole and Latin American area studies will benefit your program of study and career plans

- Two letters of recommendation* accompanied by a Release Form. For graduate students, one of the letters should be from your adviser, unless you are a new UF applicant.
- UF academic transcript; new UF applicants may submit photocopies from previous universities or colleges

Submission

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For questions, please contact Jocelyn Peskin, Assistant Director for Administration