

Friday Bulletin, March 21, 2014

Department of Religion, University of Florida

Upcoming Events

The **Islam in Africa Working-Group** and the **Sahel Research Group** of the UF Center for African Studies will hold their yearly symposium this weekend (March 21-22, 2014): *The African Madrasa: Transformations of Islamic Education in Contemporary Africa*. It starts with the Baraza today at 3:30pm in 404 Grinter Hall, when **Roman Loimeier** (University of Goettingen) will talk about: "Trajectories of Islamic Education in the 20th century: Zanzibar and Beyond." The symposium continues tomorrow (March 22) 8:30am-3:00pm in 404 Grinter Hall: Professor **Leonardo Villalon** (University of Florida), "Educating Muslims for the Secular State: The Politics of Educational Reform in the Francophone Sahel;" Professor **Mbaye Lo** (Duke University), "Islamic Institutions of Higher Learning in Africa: Opportunities and Challenges;" and Professor **Butch Ware** (University of Michigan), "Efficacy, Tenacity, and Hybridity: Notes on the 'Modernity' of 'Traditional' Qur'an schooling in Senegal."

Presentations

On Friday, March 21, 2014, Professor **Manuel Vasquez** will give a presentation entitled "Brazilian Catholicism in the Twenty-First Century: The Challenges of Globalization and Religious Pluralism" at the conference, "Catholicism in the Americas: Historical Trajectories and Contemporary Challenges," organized by the Americas Initiative at Georgetown University.

Publications

Professor **Bron Taylor's** article "[Dangerous Territory: The Contested Perceptual Spaces Between Imperial Conservation and Environmental Justice](http://www.environmentandsociety.org/perspectives/2014/1/edges-environmental-history-honouring-jane-carruthers)" has been published in "The Edges of Environmental History," *Rachel Carson Center Perspectives* 1 (2014): 117-122. The entire issue is available online at <http://www.environmentandsociety.org/perspectives/2014/1/edges-environmental-history-honouring-jane-carruthers>.

News

Robin Globus Veldman (PhD student, Nature track) successfully defended her dissertation, titled "An Inconvenient Faith? Conservative Christianity, Climate Change And The End Of The World" on March 19, 2014. Her dissertation committee consisted of Professors **Bron Taylor** (Chair) and **David Hackett** from Religion, Professors **Katrina Schwartz** and **Ken Wald** from Political Science, and Professor **Charles Wood** from Sociology/Latin American Studies. Congratulations Robin!

RGSA (Religion Grad Student Association) will meet Tuesday, March 25, 5:30pm, at the Jones B-Side, to discuss plans for next year. All are welcome.

