

Friday Bulletin, April 11, 2014

Department of Religion, University of Florida

Upcoming Events

Professor **Kyle Whyte** (Michigan State University) will present a lecture, "Bridging Indigenous and Scientific Knowledges: Multicultural Solutions for Climate Change Research," on April 14, 2014 at 5:30pm, in Weil Hall, room 270. Please note: this talk was rescheduled from an earlier date due to weather. It will be of particular interest for faculty and students interested in indigenous societies, and religion and nature studies. For further information see: <http://www.humanities.ufl.edu/calendar/20140129-Whyte.html>

Presentations

On April 9, 2014, Professor **Manuel Vasquez** gave a presentation entitled "Shall We Liberate the Gods?: Materiality and the Problem of Agency in Religious Studies" at Northwestern University.

Professor **Vasudha Narayanan** gave this year's Marjorie Hall Thulin Lecture in Religion on Wednesday, April 9, 2014, at The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her topic, "Global Hinduism," will touch on Southeast Asia, the Caribbean and the United States. For more information, see: <http://news.illinois.edu/news/14/0402thulin.html>. She gave a second talk on women poets and gender issues in Hindu traditions.

Professor **Bron Taylor** will present public Earth Week lectures (and attend several classes) at the University of South Carolina Upstate (Spartanville) on April 21, 2014 (Event information: <http://goo.gl/SnT6wX>), and at the University of South Carolina (Charleston) on April 24, 2014 (event information: <http://goo.gl/7ovVFI>).

Professor **Gwendolyn Zoharah Simmons** will chair and serve as the respondent for a panel at the *Organization of American Historians' 2014 Annual Conference* on April 10-13, 2014 at the Atlanta Hilton Hotel. The Panel presentation is on April 11, 2014, and the title of the Panel is: "Black Sixties Movements and post-Civil Rights Neighborhood Politics: Gender, War, and Social Transformation." The panel presenters are Civil Rights Historians, Drs. **Emilye Crosby**, **Hasan Kwame Jeffries**, and **Robin Spencer**.

The panel "Matha: Entangled Histories of a Religio-Political Institution in South India" that was co-organized by **Caleb Simmons** (PhD Candidate, Asian Religions) and **Sarah Hicks Taylor** of University of Pennsylvania was accepted for the AAR Annual Meeting. The panel will be co-sponsored by the Religions in South Asia Section and the Jain Studies Group. Caleb's paper is titled "Curious Pen Pals: An Examination of the Role of Mathas in Tipu Sultan's Letters to the Jagadguru of Sringeri."

On the Job Front

Robin Globus Veldman (PhD 2014, Religion and Nature Track) has accepted a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of Religious Studies in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Iowa State University. She will be working to advance the department and university's strengths in the environmental humanities, while also continuing her research on religions and climate change, and teaching Religion in America. Congratulations Robin!

Other News

Congratulations to **Jason** (PhD candidate, Americas Track) and **Amanda Purvis** for the birth of their baby girl **Matilda Jocelyn Beyer Purvis**!