

Friday Bulletin, September 27, 2013

Department of Religion, University of Florida

Upcoming Events

The Indian Classical Music Endowment Fund of **The Center for the Study of Hindu Traditions** (CHiTra) at UF presents A Carnatic Music Concert by **Maharajapuram Ramachandran** (*vocal*), **Ashwin Ramanathan** (*violin*), and **Vijay Ganesh** (*mridangam*) on Saturday, September 28, 2013, at 6:15pm in 101 MUB (Music Bldg. Auditorium; 435 Newell Drive, next to Century tower on UF campus).

Professor **Zoharah Simmons** will address Gainesville's *East Side High School's* tenth grade International Baccalaureate Program students at their Annual Activity Day on Friday, September 27, 2013. The theme of this year's program is "From Africa to the Americas: Exploring our Roots." Her talk will focus on the "Civil Rights Movement as part of the African American journey to full citizenship."

Upcoming Lectures

Cynthia Packert, Christian A. Johnson Professor, and Chair of the Department of the History of Art and Architecture, Middlebury College, will give a lecture on "'The Lord's Own Temple-Museum: Memory, Myth, and Monuments in Swaminarayan Hinduism.'" It will take place at the Harn Museum on October 19, 2013, at 3:00pm. See prior bulletin for details.

Cynthia Packert will also hold an informal meeting with graduate students on Friday, October 18, 2013, from 3:00-4:30pm, in Anderson Room 117. See prior bulletin for details.

Daniel Levine (University of Michigan) will give a lecture entitled "The Argentine Pope and the Future of Religion in Latin America" on November 5, 2013, at 6:00pm, in Smathers Library (East). He will also offer a workshop-brown bag lunch for faculty and graduate students at noon in 117 Anderson. The theme of the workshop will be "Studying Religion and Politics in Latin America: Methods, Theories, and Challenges."

News

Professor **Bron Taylor** was interviewed on Unity Radio's "Holy Rascal" radio program on September 25, 2013 about his two most recent books. The program is available as a podcast at http://www.unity.fm/episode/howtobeaholyrascal_092513

Professor **Terje Ostebo** was interviewed by *WUFT FM* on September 25, 2013 and by *Dnevnik*, a Slovenian daily, on September 23, 2013—about the mall attack by al-Shabab in Nairobi.

Congratulations to four of our graduate students who have won CLAS graduate travel awards: **Amy Brown** (PhD candidate, Nature) and **Sarah Moczygemba** (PhD student, Americas) to present papers at the AAR annual meeting in Baltimore; **Mary Puckett** (PhD student, Americas) to present at the meeting of the Society for Utopian Studies in Charleston, SC; and **Prea Persaud** (PhD student, Americas) to give a paper at the New York Conference on Asian Studies.

Last week, **Caleb Simmons** (PhD candidate, Asian Religions) had an audience with the scion of the Mysore royal family Maharaja Sri Kantha Datta Narasimharaja Wadiyar. They met in the Maharaja's quarters in the Bangalore Palace to discuss Caleb's research on Mysore's medieval and early modern history and the goddess Camundesvari. For two hours, the Maharaja read Caleb's work and gave his comments and critiques. Caleb also presented his personal opinions on the Maharaja's family history and the true nature of the goddess. The experience will help Caleb to frame the introduction to his dissertation, bringing his historical work in conversation with the present.

Deadlines

The **Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Fund** will continue for 2013-2014. The deadline for receipt of proposals in the CLAS office is Friday, October 18, 2013. No hard-copy announcement will be distributed this year. Instead, you will find the Announcement, Guidelines for Fund Eligibility, and Proposal Preparation, Cover Sheet, Budget Justification and Budget Pages at <http://www.clas.ufl.edu/forms/humanities.html>. The forms should be completed according to the guidelines provided and submitted to CLAS. Please submit your applications by email to Annie by 4:00pm on **Friday, October 11, 2013**.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences invites students pursuing the Ph.D. to apply for **dissertation fellowships** for the spring or summer terms of 2014. Students will be provided with a stipend of **\$5000** per term and a waiver of tuition fees. The intent of the awards is to free students from the demands of a teaching assistantship. This year there will be a separate category of small awards. These will be selected from among applicants who do not receive the full awards and whose dissertation project can be completed with a small award. The small awards will not include a waiver of tuition fees.

In order to be eligible to hold a fellowship, students must have already been admitted to candidacy before January 1, 2014. U.S. citizens and Permanent Residents must be Florida residents (for tuition waiver purposes) by October 11, 2013 to be eligible. (No such eligibility restrictions apply to international students.) Applicants should submit proposals to their department.

The proposals should include:

1. A cover sheet <http://www.clas.ufl.edu/forms/index.html>
2. A 1 to 2 page description (single spaced) of the dissertation project and the work to be conducted with the dissertation fellowship. (These fellowships can be used to fund travel to archives.)
3. Two letters of endorsement from the faculty, with one being from the chair of the dissertation committee

In order to allow the Graduate Studies Committee to rank applications, please submit your application by email to Annie by 4:00pm on **Monday, October 7, 2013**.