EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AWARD

Hakan Öğüt, History

2011 FOUNDER'S DAY HONOREES

Kevin Hanan, School of Visual Arts and Design
Lisa Mills, Film
Michael Strawser, Philosophy
Hakan Öğüt, History

EXCELLENCE IN GRADUATE TEACHING

Blake Scott, Writing and Rhetoric

CHINAVINE: UCF Students and Faculty Document and Share Chinese Culture

Martha Garcia, Modern Languages and Literatures
Lisa Mills, Film
Jeremy Hunt, Music
Jennifer Vest, Philosophy

NEH Summer Stipends

UCF Deadline: September 8, 2011

Summer Stipends support individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Recipients usually produce articles, monographs, books, digital materials, archaeological site reports, translations, editions, or other scholarly resources. Summer Stipends support full-time continuous work on a humanities project for a period of two months.

Full-time UCF teaching faculty must be nominated by UCF to apply. UCF will nominate up to 2 faculty who will then apply individually to NEH. Funding for this program goes directly to the faculty. To be considered for nomination, you must submit a white paper to ORC by 8/8/2011 using the Limited Submission Funding Opportunity website: https://argis.research.ucf.edu/LimitedSubmissions/EndureQuestionsHome.aspx?ResSolicitationId=46

More information: www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/stipends.html

NEH-Teaching Development Fellowships

NEH Deadline: September 30, 2011

Teaching Development Fellowships (TDF) support college and university teachers pursuing research aimed specifically at improving their undergraduate teaching. The program has three broad goals: 1) to improve the quality of humanities education in the United States; 2) to strengthen the link between research and teaching in the humanities; and 3) to foster excellence in undergraduate instruction.

TDFs cover periods lasting from three to five months and carry stipends of $4,200 per month. Thus the maximum stipend is $21,000 for a five-month award period.

This is an individual award and is not funded through UCF but applicants must have their department or program chair or dean certify in writing that the institution supports the proposed project and will offer the proposed course after the completion of the award.

More information: www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/ TD_Fellowships.html#eligibility

RICHES of Central Florida

By Connie Lester

The Regional Initiative for Collecting the History, Experiences, and Stories (RICHES) of Central Florida, based in the University of Central Florida College of Arts and Humanities, was awarded two grants during the Spring 2011 semester and advanced its presence in the academic and larger communities through a number of presentations and workshops.

RICHES of Central Florida is a project-based initiative begun by the UCF History Department in September of 2009 to promote research, preservation, and dissemination of the diverse history and heritages of Central Florida.

In March, the Winter Park Health Foundation awarded $20,000 to a partnership project between RICHES and the UCF School of Social Work to record oral histories of older adults as a way to introduce person-centered care in assisted living facilities. The project will begin in July 1, 2011 and continue until January 31, 2012.

The National Endowment for the Humanities awarded RICHES a $50,000 Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant in May to implement the second phase of the Central Florida Mosaic Interface (CFMI) prototype. The CFMI is planned to be the internet access point for content created through RICHES projects, and will pull-in sources relating to Central Florida from partnership archives, including the Sanford Museum and the Museum of Seminole County History. The CFMI prototype second phase will focus on allowing natural language searching as well as adding historical context to the database. Implementation of the second phase began in mid-May and will continue until April 22, 2012.

The RICHES initiative is committed to developing academic and community partnerships to explore the region’s history and culture. As a part of that initiative, RICHES partnered with the Orange County Regional History Center and the UCF Library Special Collections for an archiving workshop for small collections. Historical societies and interested individuals learned the basics of archiving photographs and documents. In February, RICHES hosted its first THAT (The Humanities And Technology) Camp, a weekend "un-conference" that brings together students, professors, and the interested public to work, brainstorm and network on digital projects. Finally, faculty and students in RICHES were featured in panels at the National Council for Public History annual meeting in Pensacola and at the annual meeting of the Florida Historical Society in Jacksonville.

For more information about RICHES, visit http://rchest.cah.ucf.edu/ or call 407-823-0242.

Individual Opportunities

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By Kristin Congdon, Professor Emerita, Dept. of Philosophy and Jordan Lynton, Sophomore, English major

Through chinaVine.org, UCF students and faculty use new and interactive technologies in engage in dialogue about Chinese folk art, music, and traditional practices. As a result of the use of these technologies, UCF’s ChinaVine team is helping educate people around the world about the daily life of the Chinese people.

ChinaVine began in 2006 with a partnership invitation from President Pan Lusheng of the Shandong University of Art and Design (SUAD). He suggested that UCF and the University of Oregon join SUAD in creating a Chinese rendition of FolkVine, a previous UCF project representing Florida’s folk art on the Web. In 2007, several members of the ChinaVine team traveled to Shandong Province to document traditional art. Within months, they posted information focused on the material culture from ten villages. In 2008, the work continued with websites that highlighted research artists working in Beijing, a section on festivals and village life in China, and the story of Barney and Loye Barnard, U.S. travelers who journeyed through China in 1982 (before most Western journalists could travel there freely). A year later, the ChinaVine team explored the Miao culture in Guizhou Province.

In the past few years, the website has expanded its content in these areas and in Shanghai. ChinaVine.org documents China’s cultural heritage through text, audio, video, drawings, photographs, and interactive animation. The ChinaVine team also seeks new and collaborative ways to produce research by exploring educational processes and utilizing new technological advancements through its website.

In addition, the ChinaVine team works on exhibitions, presentations, and other creative and scholarly efforts. The ChinaVine team reaches out to create an archive of its “Viners’” includes a diverse group of researchers, web designers, and digital media specialists from various groups in the U.S. and China. Our team members are graduate students, undergraduates, alumni, and faculty from a wide variety of academic fields. UCF partners with many other institutions including the University of Oregon, The Ohio State University, University of Maine, Beijing Normal University, Beijing Folk Literature and Art Association and Shandong University of Art and Design. Their work has been conducted with the Chinese Festival Cultural Organization, the Guizhou Musicians Association, the Interactive Media Group at the University of Oregon and the China Conservatory of Music.

ChinaVine is currently in the process of formalizing a partnership with the China Folk Literature and Art Association, which oversees traditional art activities in China.

ChinaVine also provides travel and other academic opportunities. Since ChinaVine’s beginning, the team has conducted eight research expeditions to China, and, in July, a field school in Beijing will open through the University of Oregon. As a result of ChinaVine’s newly formed relationship with the Chinese government, team members now have the opportunity to document more provinces, and possibly triple their research endeavors each year. The project is evolving at a fast rate and it is sometimes hard to keep up with all the opportunities it offers. The ChinaVine team is always looking for new members who are interested in experiencing a taste of ChinaVine fever.

Richard Drexler, Instructor of Jazz Studies, is currently in residence as a member of the Glenn Wilson Quartet playing jazz for theatergoers at

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Karin Feise, Professor of TESOL in the Department of Modern Languages & Literatures, worked with 300 K-12 teachers in four sites in Arkansas through a federally funded program to improve the readiness of K-12 teachers to deal with the growing number of English language learners in that state. Dr. Feise conducted workshops on English grammar and vocabulary based on his corpus linguistics research findings. Dr. Feise has also been invited to deliver keynote addresses in Ecuador in August and Korea in September regarding the potential applications of his findings to English teaching in those countries.

Harry Coverston was selected by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education to participate in a Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program to Brazil. He will attend “Land of the Future or of the Present? A historical perspective on Brazil” in July. The program emphasizes various aspects of Brazil’s social, economic and cultural history, investigating the roles played by slavery, race, misconceptions, elitism, militarism, music and urbanization, among others. The main purpose is to provide U.S. educators with a first-hand opportunity to understand day-to-day life in the country through study and travel.

E. Brady Robinson will lecture at the Smithsonian American Art Museum on Sunday, August 28. She will discuss early landscape paintings on view in the Luce Foundation Center in relation to her own work, in which she explores the immediacy of capturing images made possible by modern technology.

Currently on exhibit at Cornell Fine Art Museum, her solo photography exhibition Transfer features fleeting landscapes taken from the window seat of a plane and car. Transfer combines mobile image capture with the concept of drifting. Locations include Paris, Venice, Playa del Carmen, Orlando and Miami. See: ebradyrobinson.com.

David Brunner conducted a program of his works for chorus and orchestra in Carnegie Hall on May 28, his 7th appearance there. Ten UCF singers performed in the chorus. Dr. Brunner is also working with music teachers at Winter Park High School and Maitland Middle School on a "virtual choir" project in collaboration with Full Sail, which will be in production this fall. This will also include UCF students. He is also composing a new work on a poem written especially for this project by a poet in New Hampshire. The performance will occur as part of the opening concert of the 2011 ClarinetFest®, the annual conference of the International Clarinet Association, taking place at California State University, Northridge. Keith KOons is the current president of the International Clarinet Association (www.clarinet.org).