



THE INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR
VOL. 23, NO. 3 — FALL 2009

The newsletter of the National Coalition of Independent Scholars

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT
Fall 2009

Dear NCIS Members,

Thanks to everyone for voting in the recent NCIS election, and thanks even more to those of you who stood for election! It's really great to see a big turnout of members interested in serving the organization. We always need active, energetic folks to help out, so even if you couldn't run for a place on the board this time, keep it in mind for the future and consider joining one of our many active committees.

Since the board meeting in June, the NCIS board has been hard at work, forming interest groups, doing promotion and advertising, and helping out new members and members interested in setting up regional groups of independent scholars (ISs). We talked to JSTOR, which informed us that while they don't yet have a program to offer

access to their databases to ISs or service organizations like NCIS, they've heard the cry from ISs everywhere and are working on a plan to get us the access we need. In the meantime, I urge you to consult the NCIS Library Access Guide and to send us any information you have about your experiences at the libraries listed there or other libraries so we can keep it updated.

(continued on the next page)

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

- ❖ Joining (or Starting) an NCIS Study Group
- ❖ Independent Bookshops: Chicago
- ❖ Calls for Papers, Member News, and More!

(continued from previous page)

As I'm off for a residency at Yale University as a Fellow there, I want to remind everyone that the start of the academic year marks the start of many competitions and application periods for grants and fellowships, so get your proposals and applications ready. You can't win if you don't enter, and chances for ISs to receive awards rises every year as associations and organizations recognize that ISs can and do contribute to the knowledge of the world. ❖

—Kendra Leonard, President

More messages from the President are available through the NCIS mailing list on Google Groups. Visit <<http://groups.google.com/group/independentscholars/>> for more information on how to sign up for the mailing list.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Just a very quick note from me: it's great to see the number of study groups and regional meetings that NCIS members are starting to put together. It certainly helps to have other people around for sharing ideas and for general encouragement—as I'm finding out to my dismay, since my own academic "running partner" has headed six time zones away to start graduate school this fall!

At least two major disciplinary conferences are coming up for those of you in the American Historical Association and the Modern Language Association, so this issue includes information on what you need to do to organize an NCIS gathering at a scholarly conference. And as ever, I'm interested in hearing from NCIS members! Contact me at <s.l.granville@gmail.com> if you have anything that you'd like to see included in *The Independent Scholar*. ❖

—Shannon Granville

JOIN AN NCIS STUDY GROUP!

Several online NCIS discipline-based study groups have formed over the summer, including Military Studies (Neil Dukas as chair at <neil@dukas.org>), American Studies (Susan Iwanisziw at <siwanisziw@netzero.com>), Anthropological Studies (Maria Swora at <mswora@yahoo.com>), and Biographical Studies (Linda Coppens as temp. chair at <linda.coppens@sbcglobal.net>). To join a group, please contact the chairs directly. Three groups with members still need chairs: Gender Studies, Religious Studies, and Non-Western Studies. If you wish to kick-start any of these groups, please contact Susan Iwanisziw (above).

Another group slated to appear is Creative Writing, which will be chaired by Harrison Solow. She can be reached directly at <Harrison@solowtwo.com>, and she will post a notice when she is prepared to start. Several members have indicated interests in education, gardening, non-Western literature, and the like. If you wish to organize groups of any size in any field, please go ahead! Please check in with Susan Iwanisziw to update her on your progress. ❖

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NCIS MINI-GRANT: STEVEN C. LEVI

I recently returned from San Francisco courtesy of a mini-grant from NCIS. I would like to thank our membership for making that trip possible. Members like me who live far from original documents—I live in Alaska—appreciate any financial assistance we can get to help us with airfare.

My specific interest was in tracking down the notorious Alaskan E. T. Barnette. Barnette founded what became Fairbanks in 1903. He made his money overpricing food and supplies in his store—the only one in town—and then created the Washington and Alaska Bank. In 1911, he absconded with every dime out of that bank and headed “Outside.” (“Outside” is an Alaskan term meaning the Lower 48 states. Alaskans do not use the term “continental United States” because we are on the same continent as the Lower 48 States.)

Historically speaking, there were sightings of Barnette in Mexico, Los Angeles, Nicaragua, and San Francisco before his death under mysterious circumstances in 1933. His daughters, still alive, are understandably silent on their father’s perambulations. My research in San Francisco revealed that Barnette was involved in a salacious affair with the mistress of another notorious Alaskan, Leroy Tozier. The love letters of the woman involved were published in the San Francisco papers. Barnette’s wife filed for divorce and, eventually, died in a sanitarium in Napa Valley. Barnette fled for Mexico where he was put out of business by bandits. He subsequently moved to the El Centro area where he was made an honorary United States Marshal—which I did not know was possible—and was “hired” to go to Nicaragua to extradite a criminal by force. I am still trying to find the details of that assignment.

My trip to San Francisco partially funded by the mini-grant was successful by historical standards because I actually found quality material. Far too

often, I spend hours in archives and find nothing. Finding anything is considered a victory; what I found in San Francisco was not only a gold mine but it pointed me in the direction of other material.

Once again, thank you for the mini-grant!

(NCIS member Steven Levi of Anchorage, AK, kindly agreed to let us print his letter in *TIS*. He can be contacted at <scl@parsnackle.com>.)

Are you interested in applying for an NCIS grant? Visit <www.ncis.org> for more information about available grants and the grant application process. Any NCIS member in good standing is eligible to apply. ❖

HELP OUT H-NET

H-Net is one of the Internet’s premier online humanities and social sciences databases, known for its job board, calls for papers, and scholarly mailing list services. To keep H-Net free from advertising or subscription-based access, the site is run entirely by volunteers and is supported by grants, payments for job board postings, and user donations.

Like many nonprofit groups, H-Net has been hit hard by the state of the economy in the past year. With universities and academic groups canceling job searches, and with low donation rates, H-Net is making a rare plea for donations to continue to provide services to the scholarly community.

H-Net is a tax-exempt nonprofit organization under Section 501(c)3 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service Code. Donations to H-Net by U.S. taxpayers are tax-deductible; taxpayers in other countries may receive favorable tax treatment, depending on filing status. Visit <www.h-net.org> for more information. ❖

THE BOOKS OF MORMON: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

J. David Reno

New England has a reputation as a place where people know quite a lot about their genealogy, including when their ancestors first arrived in America—on the *Mayflower*, or otherwise. Yet the largest genealogical library is not in Boston's Back Bay, but in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The story has a New England ancestry. In the 1820s, Joseph Smith Jr., a young Vermonter living in New York State, was going through his adolescent angst. He wondered which of the multidominational churches of 19th century America he should follow. While praying, he was answered by an angel named Moroni, who revealed a cache of golden tablets. Smith translated the tablets, writing a book of his translation. His completed work was published as *The Book of Mormon* (1830).¹ *The Book of Mormon* is one of two native American English speaking and written religions founded in America. The other is Mary Baker Eddy's Science and Health (1875), which founded the Church of Christ, Scientist.

Smith's religion had the official title of The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints, known also as LDS, or more popularly as "Mormons." After founding the church, the Mormons moved many times, finally locating in what is now Salt Lake City in the new territory of Utah. It is interesting to note a religion that was forced out of many communities would devote its energies to genealogy.

Most people never consider the paper trail they leave behind. In America, you get a birth certificate when you are born, a marriage certificate when you marry, and a death certificate at the end of everything. But besides the womb, the groom, and the tomb, life

¹ For an account of the influence of *The Book of Mormon*, see Robert B. Downs' *Books That Changed America* (New York: Macmillan, 1970), Chapter 3, "Latter Saint."

generates school diplomas, real estate deeds, tax records, newspapers articles, court filings, census records, and military enlistment and discharges.² It is almost impossible to live in America and not have a record—and this is where the Family History Library proves useful for researchers.



The Family History Library was founded in 1894 to gather genealogical records and assist members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints with their family history and genealogical research. Source: www.familysearch.org (Image from www.surnames.com)

The Family History Library, 35 North West Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150

Local phone (1-801-240-2584; Toll Free-1-866-406-1830; Web site: <www.familysearch.org>; e-mail <fhl@ldsfs.net>, is open Monday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Tuesday through Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. closed Sundays.

The Family History Library has the largest collection of genealogical records in the world. The collection contains 2.4 million rolls of microfilm, more than 750,000 articles of microfiche, and 300,000 books and series. Much of the collection was once stored in a cave one mile west of Salt Lake City.

² For an excellent reference on military records, see Lt. Col. Richard S. Johnson (Ret), and Debra Johnson Knox's *How to Locate Anyone Who Is or Has Been in the Military*, 8th ed. (Spartanburg, SC: MIE, 1999).

You do not have to be a Mormon to use the library. The library offers free public access, with open stacks. Experienced staff are there to assist, and specialized genealogical classes are available. The Center has more than 200 computers with high-speed Internet access. Internet access is available for laptops along with free access to many subscription-only research sites. There are also more than 500 film readers, and the library provides accessibility services for the deaf and hard of hearing.

The only charge is a nominal cost for the duplication of materials, paper, or microfilm. While most data sources are in English, the staff has researchers available in about 25 other languages. Most records assume an English-speaking industrial model, but the collection includes nontraditional records such as Chinese clan histories and African tribal oral history. ❖

J. David Reno is an independent scholar in Boston.

STAYING AT CLUB QUARTERS

When I finished my postgraduate work at the London School of Economics, I received a brochure with information on alumni benefits. One of those benefits was a membership in Club Quarters, a group of small hotels aimed at business and professional travelers. I liked the thought of it, but expected that I would not be able to take much advantage of it. However, on a research trip to London a few years later, my plans to stay with friends fell through. I found the hotel Web site (<www.clubquarters.com>) and went through the reservation process, hoping that a room would be available in one of the London hotels for at least one night. Since then, I have had the good fortune to stay in two different Club Quarters hotels, and would be more than willing to see what the others have to offer.

The two hotels I stayed in were the London St. Paul's and Trafalgar Square branches. The St. Paul's Club Quarters was down the street from St. Paul's Cathedral, convenient to several Underground stations and bus lines, and the Trafalgar Square Club Quarters was even more convenient for my research work. Many of the other Club Quarters locations are equally convenient for travelers, situated near public transport and easy to access. The amenities are well suited for business travel, with plenty of space to spread out papers and Internet connections in both the rooms and the hotel lounge. And after a long day in the archives, I must say that it was *very* nice to come back to a free glass of wine or a soft drink in the lounge!

The prices for rooms are comparable to what one might expect from hotels in the cities in question. Some hotels have special lower weekend and holiday rates available upon request, though these are subject to availability, depending on the city and the time of year. (Few places in New York City are liable to give discounted rooms on New Year's Eve!) For those who need to stay in a particular location on an extended basis—say, longer than 30 days—Club Quarters also has specific rates for different rooms that are available for extended stay periods. Furthermore, free storage space is provided for luggage if you arrive before check-in or need someplace to store a bag or two after check-out.

To log in to the Club Quarters Web site, and look around, just visit the link given above and type "NCIS" when asked for a password. If you happen to stay in a Club Quarters, whether for work, research, or pleasure travelling, please do let us know about your experiences! ❖

Shannon Granville

ATLANTA APPEAL

Independent scholars who live in the Atlanta metropolitan area: are you interested in forming a group through which we would share our ideas and support each other's work? As an historian of American education and culture who works at home and greatly misses having opportunities to discuss my and others' scholarship and challenges, I am quite happy to help organize, host, and nurture such an alliance, whatever form it may take. Any of the NCIS affiliates would be a model, with regular meetings that address the processes of research, writing, and simply figuring things out.

I look forward to hearing from interested scholars. Please contact Claudia J. Keenan at <claudiajkeenan@gmail.com>, 404-549-9626. ❖

INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS SUPPORT INDEPENDENT BOOKSHOPS

Good as it is to inherit a library, it is better to collect one.

— Augustine Birrell (1850–1933), “Book Buying,”
Obiter Dicta (1888)

CHICAGO

A recent blog post on the Chicago Now Web site (<www.chicagonow.com/blogs/chicago-subtext/2009/05/independent-and-used-bookstores-of-chicago.html>) highlights a number of excellent independent and used bookstores in the Chicago area. With so many to choose from, it might seem difficult to select a few of note, but visitors to Chicago should certainly look into at least one of the following shops.

At the Newberry Library, the **A.C. McClurg Bookstore** (60 W. Walton Street, Chicago, IL 60610) is a must-see for readers and researchers. Its selection specializes in American studies, Native

American studies, medieval and Renaissance history, books about Chicago and the Midwest, and (unsurprisingly) literature. More information about the bookstore can be found at <www.newberry.org/general/bookstore.html>.

The parent company of the Newberry Library's store, the **Seminary Co-Op Bookstore** (5757 South University Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637), has been serving the city since 1961 and is the largest single seller of academic titles in the world. Membership in the co-op is open to anyone (as the more than 50,000 current members can attest), and members receive a 10 percent discount on their purchases. The bookstore's Web site, <www.semcoop.com>, is well worth exploring.

Also, **Myopic Books** (1564 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60622) in Wicker Park features historical literature, contemporary fiction, and works in philosophy and the humanities. The store also hosts poetry readings and board game nights, and will also buy books on specified days. Visit <www.myopicbookstore.com> for more information about the store's music and poetry series, and for book buying days and hours. The store is open until 1 AM for much of the week, so night owls can browse at their leisure!

— Shannon Granville

Previous articles in this column have looked at independent bookstores in London, Washington DC, Toronto, and Philadelphia.

Are you interested in sharing information about your favorite independent bookshops with your fellow independent scholars? *TIS* invites you to e-mail <slgranville@gmail.com> with a short description (preferably between 250 and 500 words) with your selections for independent bookshops that you think are especially worthy of note. Be sure to provide information about the location and the contents, and explain what makes the shop stand out to you. Submissions will be included in forthcoming *TIS* issues. ❖

HOSTING NCIS RECEPTIONS AT SCHOLARLY GATHERINGS

For those of you investigating hosting receptions for independent scholars at future meetings of the Modern Language Association, American Historical Association, Kalamazoo, and other major conferences, please note the following:

- NCIS will provide up to \$150 for reception costs
- Please submit all receipts up to this amount to Kati (<kbogar2@comcast.net>) no later than 30 days following the meeting for reimbursement
- Please send the board a follow-up report as to the date, time, and location of the reception; how many NCIS members were present; and how many non-NCIS members were present. Please also let us know how you publicized the reception (in the meeting program, through disciplinary or H-Net electronic mailing lists, on a meeting bulletin board, etc.).
- Please contact Kati if you need more brochures to distribute at these receptions or at the meetings in general
- Please contact Kendra Leonard (<kendraprestonleonard@gmail.com>) if you have any questions.

These receptions will be very helpful to promote NCIS, help our members meet one another, and encourage independent scholars to attend their disciplinary meetings.

Are you interested in submitting an article to *TIS*? If so, please e-mail a brief description of the article and a proposed length to <slgranville@gmail.com>. The submission deadline for the Winter 2009 issue is November 15—however, articles submitted for publication in a later issue are more than welcome.

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Looking for previous issues of *The Independent Scholar*? The officers and editorial staff are working to make back issues of *TIS* available for members on the NCIS Web site at <www.ncis.org>.

PROFESSIONAL NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALLS FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS

Journal of Policy History
June 3–6, 2010
Columbus, OH

Conference on Policy History

The *Journal of Policy History* is hosting the 2010 Conference on Policy History at the Hyatt on Capitol Square in Columbus, Ohio from June 3 to June 6, 2010. Program chairs are David B. Robertson, Paula Baker, and Amy Bridges. We are currently accepting paper proposals on all topics regarding political and policy history, American political development, and comparative historical analysis. We encourage complete session submissions, but individual paper proposals are welcome. The editors of the *Journal of Policy History* encourage conference presenters to submit their papers for possible publication.

The deadline for proposal submission is **December 30, 2009**. Proposals should include one copy of the following materials:

1. Panel/Paper Description and Contact Information Page (template available at our Web site)
2. A one-page summary of each paper
3. A one-page C.V. of each panelist

Please send the materials to Policy History Conference, *Journal of Policy History*, Saint Louis University, 3800 Lindell Blvd., P.O. Box 56907, St. Louis, MO 63156-0907. Incomplete proposals and e-mailed submissions will not be considered. Please direct general inquiries to the conference coordinator, Cynthia Stachecki, at policyhistoryconference@gmail.com.

Korean War Conference
Victoria College
June 24–26, 2010
Victoria, TX

The Victoria College/University of Houston–Victoria Library is commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Korean War by sponsoring a conference to be held at the Victoria College, Victoria, TX, on June 24–26, 2010.

Presentations on all aspects of the conflict will be considered. Proposals must include a brief biography, a one-paragraph abstract, and the name, street address, and e-mail address of the presenter. Submissions should be sent to James M. Smallwood at jms8466@okstate.edu or by mail to the following address:

James M. Smallwood
1413 S. Lindsay Street
Gainesville, TX 76240-5625

Proposals must be received no later than **January 15, 2010**.

Nineteenth Century Studies Association
March 11–13, 2010
Tampa, FL

Theatricality and the Performative in the Long Nineteenth Century

Dramatic expression and self-conscious performances marked almost every aspect of nineteenth century life and artistic culture, as theatrical turns and performative mindsets introduced in the 17th and 18th centuries expanded in the 1780s through the beginning of World War One. We invite paper and panel proposals that explore these themes and subjects

in the long nineteenth century (1780–1914). Papers might address the theatrical shows—whether serious drama, circus displays, vaudeville, operas, or Shakespearean revivals—that appeared in cities and towns on both sides of the Atlantic (as well as in more distant lands). Or they might investigate how politics, social events, military engagements, domestic affairs, public trials, crime reports, religious rituals, architectural spaces, sculptural moments, exhibition halls, artistic and musical compositions, and the early moving pictures of the cinema, assumed a theatrical sensibility. Welcome also are proposals for papers and panels that bring scholarly and theoretical interests in performativity to bear on concepts of identity, individuality, and audience in the given era.

Please submit abstracts of approximately 500 words along with a brief (one page) c.v. to program co-chairs Janice Simon (U of Georgia) and Regina Hewitt (U of South Florida) at the conference address <ncsa2010@earthlink.net> by **September 15, 2009**. Speakers will be notified by or before December 15.

The conference will be held at the University of Tampa. For more information, visit the Web site <<http://www.english.uwosh.edu/roth/ncsa/>> or contact Elizabeth Winston, Local Arrangements Director, at <ncsa2010@earthlink.net>.

Are you attending a conference that has issued a call for papers, with a deadline at least three months in the future? Send the appropriate information to the *TIS* editor at <s.l.granville@gmail.com> for publication in an upcoming newsletter. Please be sure to include as much information as possible about the conference—the text may be edited for length, but all pertinent details will be presented in this section.

75 Years of Penguin Books: An International
Multidisciplinary Conference
June 29–July 1, 2010
Bristol, United Kingdom

In 2010, Penguin Books will be 75 years old and Puffin Books will be 70 years old. The International Penguin Conference, organized by the Penguin Archive Research Project, commemorates the occasion of these two anniversaries and celebrates the achievements of what is arguably one of the most distinctive and significant publishing houses of the 20th century and beyond.

The conference will take place at the University of Bristol. Keynote speakers include Professor Sir David Cannadine, Professor Simon Eliot, Professor Kim Reynolds, and Professor Sir Christopher Ricks.

The conference is organized by the Arts and Humanities Research Council–funded Penguin Archive Project, and will seek to cover the diversity of Penguin’s publication history. The Penguin Archive itself is held in the Special Collections of the University of Bristol Library and attracts the attention of researchers in many disciplines and fields at national and international level, including historians of the book, biographers, social and political historians, cultural analysts and literary researchers.

For more information about conference registration, presentation, travel, and accessibility, please visit the conference Web site at <www.bristol.ac.uk/penguinarchiveproject>
Call for papers deadline: **February 1, 2010**
Registration date: **March 26, 2010**

A Room of Their Own: The Bloomsbury Artists
in American Collections
Northwestern University
Evanston, IL
February 27, 2010

The Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University will host a one-day symposium on Saturday, February 27, 2010, to explore topics related to the exhibition "A Room of Their Own: The Bloomsbury Artists in American Collections."

We invite proposals for presentations on such topics as Bloomsbury art production, criticism, display, and collecting; the Omega Workshops; design of books, fashion, gardens, architecture, domestic spaces, ceramics, furniture; and other aspects of visual culture related to the Bloomsbury group or its influences.

Please submit by e-mail a 250- to 300-word proposal with a title, your name, e-mail and postal mailing addresses, phone number, and institutional affiliation to professors Christine Froula at <cfroula@northwestern.edu> and Christopher Reed at <creed@psu.edu> by **September 11, 2009**. The museum will offer all speakers a small honorarium and will cover travel expenses and accommodations.

CALLS FOR JOURNAL PAPERS AND SPECIAL ISSUE CONTRIBUTIONS

*Environmental Communication: A Journal of Nature
and Culture*
Volume 5, Issue 1 (2011)

Coloring the Environmental Lens:
Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Cinema, New
Media, and Just Sustainability

We are seeking manuscript submissions on the role of cinema and new media in engaging environmental issues from the perspectives of

traditionally marginalized groups (specifically socioeconomically depressed groups and racial and ethnic minorities in the American and global context). We deliberately conceive cinema broadly to include various moving images in documentary and fictional film, video, and television, -and are also interested in new media such as video games, Internet video shorts, blogs, and online games.

Recent scholarship has begun to actively highlight the importance of engaging different racial, cultural, and socioeconomic perspectives within the arena of environmental sustainability. However, relatively little comprehensive attention has been devoted to the way cinema and new media intersect with and highlight issues of environmental justice and sustainability. This issue hopes to fill this gap in environmental, cinema, and new media scholarship.

We invite essays from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary angles, and welcome analyses of films/videos/new media, filmmakers, film festivals, national cinemas, or classroom practices. We are particularly interested in readings of cinema that do not neatly fit traditional categories of nature or environmental films, and in articles that engage new media, such as online gaming, Internet video platforms (i.e. YouTube), and blogs that use social spaces in alternate ways. We are also interested in critiques of contemporary environmental cinema and new media that omit the voices of various traditionally marginalized groups despite their relevance to the issues discussed.

Manuscripts should be prepared in English, and should not exceed 8,000 words including references. Please refer to the instructions for authors at <www.informaworld.com/renc>. Upon notification of acceptance, authors must assign copyright to Taylor and Francis and provide copyright clearance for any copyrighted material. Contact <smonani@gettysburg.edu> by **January 30, 2010**.

The Journal of American Ethnic History, the official journal of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society, announces its call for article submissions for a special issue on “Cold War Politics and American Ethnic Groups.”

The overall goal of this special issue is to uncover the diverse ways in which American ethnic groups were affected by the foreign relations, intelligence, and defense strategies of both the United States and the communist regimes. This issue also aims to discuss the effect that certain ethnic groups had or tried to have on American foreign policy and what techniques they used for this. In addition, the issue explores how Cold War politics shaped internal dynamics within American ethnic and immigrant communities. The historical period covered in this volume spans from the late 1940s to the late 1980s.

We strongly encourage submissions that use sources from recently opened archives both in the United States and former communist countries. We are looking for studies that use primary materials from within the ethnic groups themselves. Submissions covering both European and non-European ethnic groups are welcome.

Manuscripts must be received by **December 1, 2009**. Please note that the journal does not accept previously published material. Prospective contributors are encouraged to join the Immigration and Ethnic History Society. Further information about the society and about the requirements for manuscript submissions can be found at <www.iehhs.org> or by e-mailing editor John Bukowczyk at <aa2092@wayne.edu>.

FUNDING AND AWARDS

National Endowment for the Humanities
2009 Grant Applications

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has listed several upcoming 2009 grant application deadlines, including Collaborative Research Grants (**October 29, 2009**) and Scholarly Editions and Translations Grants (**October 29, 2009**). Independent scholars are eligible to apply for some grants, and NCIS may be able to provide institutional affiliation for other grants. These and other available NEH grants may be viewed online at <www.neh.gov/grants/index.html>.

Blakemore Freeman Fellowships
Language Grants for Advanced Asian Language Study

Since 1990, Blakemore Freeman Fellowships (<www.blakemorefoundation.org>) have been available to fund a year of advanced study of an Asian language in Asia for American citizens and permanent residents of the United States who have a college degree and who plan to use an Asian language in their careers.

To be eligible for a grant, an applicant must:

- Be pursuing an academic, professional or business career that involves the regular use of a modern East or Southeast Asian language
- Have a college undergraduate degree
- Be at or near an advanced level in the language as defined below
- Be able to devote oneself exclusively to language study during the term of the grant; grants are not made for part-time study
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident

The “professional or business career” designation includes careers in computer science, engineering, international business, journalism, law, medicine, nongovernmental organizations, and teaching. “Advanced level” is defined as (1) a minimum of three academic years of regular language study at the college level; (2) a minimum of one academic year of full-time intensive language study at the college level; or (3) signed proof of equivalent competency as certified by a language instructor. The next postmark deadline for applications will be **December 30, 2009**. More information about grants is available at the above Web site.

Coordinating Council for Women in History
CCWH Catherine Prelinger Award

The CCWH Catherine Prelinger Award is a scholarship of \$20,000 which will be awarded to a scholar of excellence. This award, named for Catherine Prelinger, a former CCWH president and nontraditional scholar, is intended to enhance the work of a contemporary scholar whose academic path has not followed the traditional path of uninterrupted study, moving from completed secondary, to undergraduate, then graduate degrees, followed by a tenure-track faculty position. These funds were granted to CCWH by an anonymous donor in honor of the many years of work this organization has devoted to exploring women’s history, encouraging opportunities for women in the historical profession, and in educating young women to pursue careers in the historical profession. This award is intended to enhance the ability of the recipient to carry on these CCWH traditions through contributions to women in history, either through scholarly or professional activity.

Eligible applicants must be members of CCWH, hold either A.B.D. status or the Ph.D. at the time of application, and be actively engaged in scholarship that is historical in nature, although the degree may be in related fields. Applicants will show evidence of a nontraditional

professional career and describe a project that will further enhance women’s roles in history. The Prelinger Committee encourages applications from independent and non-academic scholars.

For more information about CCWH, the CCWH Catherine Prelinger Award, and application forms, visit <www.theccwh.org/prelinger/prelingeraward.htm>.

WEB SITES OF INTEREST

An article published on the Canadian Web site University Affairs on December 1, 2008, looks at the “indie scene” of several independent scholars in Canada, and mentions the Canadian Academy of Independent Scholars (<www.sfu.ca/independentscholars/>). Pascal Zamprelli’s article can be read in its entirety at <www.universityaffairs.ca/the-indie-scene.aspx>.

European History Primary Sources

The Department of History and Civilization and the Library of the European University Institute, Florence, Italy, are pleased to announce the official launch of European History Primary Sources (EHPS), an index of scholarly Web sites that offer online access to primary sources on the history of Europe from medieval and early modern history up to the most recent history of the European integration process.

EHPS will provide historians with an easily searchable index of Web sites that offer online access to primary sources on the history of Europe. As the number of digital archives and collections on the internet continues to grow, maintaining an overview becomes increasingly difficult. EHPS strives to fill that gap by selecting the most important collections of digital primary

sources for the history of Europe, either as a whole or for individual countries.

EHPS is updated continuously and several collaborative features are introduced in the portal. It is easy to stay updated on new entries and registered users can bookmark entries, leave comments to add their experiences to the descriptions on EHPS listed Web sites, complete EHPS abstracts, and suggest new Web sites to be included. Since September 2008, EHPS has already attracted significant interest from historians. You are invited to send feedback and suggestions.

The portal was built and is maintained by Dr. Gerben Zaagsma (University College London) with the open source content management system Drupal. Visit the portal at <http://primary-sources.eui.eu/>.

To contact EHPS, please e-mail primary-sources.info@eui.eu.

Introducing loc.gov: Orientation and Research Strategies

The Library of Congress, the United States' oldest federal cultural institution and largest library in the world, contains more than 134 million books, recordings, photographs and prints, maps, music items, and manuscripts. Collected in more than 470 languages, the materials range from rare cuneiform tablets to born digital materials. Through its Web site at www.loc.gov, the Library makes available its resources, services, and more than 15 million items in American history and culture.

The Digital Reference Section conducts a free, one-hour interactive orientation monthly from 11 a.m. to noon (Eastern time), via Web conference. Upcoming 2009 dates are October 14, November 10, and December 9. Upcoming 2010 dates are January 13, February 10, March

10, April 14, May 12, and June 9. To register, use the Participant Registration Form at www.loc.gov/rr/program/orientation_form.php. ❖

Stories Matter

The Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling at Concordia University in Montreal, presents Stories Matter, a free, open-source software that is compatible with Macintosh and PC operating systems. It allows for the archiving of digital video and audio materials, enabling users to annotate, analyze, evaluate, and export materials, as well as tag, index, search, and browse within interviews, sessions, and clips or across entire collections.

Stories Matter may not replace transcription for many oral historians, but it allows users to create convenient video and audio clips for research purposes and integrate them into presentation software, such as PowerPoint. The software also preserves important forms of communication typically lost in transcription, including changes in tone, volume, rhythm, and body language, allowing for more nuanced analysis.

Visit the new Stories Matter Web site at www.stories-matter.com to download the software, and begin using it locally to build a database or series of databases from your personal collection of interviews. An instruction manual is embedded the software. In addition, the Stories Matter blog (<http://storytelling.concordia.ca/storiesmatter/>) will have updates on the development of Phase II of Stories Matter, which will enable increased collaboration among oral historians by providing an intuitive online database tool that can assist group projects and encourage public engagement. Phase II of Stories Matter is scheduled to be completed in December 2009, with a public launch to follow shortly thereafter.

MEMBER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Have you recently changed your e-mail or postal address? Have you published a book or article, won a grant or fellowship, or have other news that you would like to share with your fellow NCIS members? Send it to <slgranville@gmail.com> for publication in our Member News and Announcements section.

New Members

No new member information available in this issue.

New Awards

Kendra Preston Leonard has been awarded a Visiting Fellowship from the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University to do research and work on her project on American composer Louise Talma. She will be in residence at Yale for a month working with the materials there.

New Presentations and Publications

Claudia Kennan has published "Laura Carter Holloway and the First Lady's Story," *White House Studies*, vol. 8, no. 4 (Summer 2009).

Kelly M. McDonald, whose research delves into the lives of sisters-in-law Mary Gosling and Emma Smith (aka Lady Smith and Emma Austen-Leigh) via unpublished letters and diaries, serves as guest lecturer for a series of four talks at The Governor's House in Hyde Park (a bed & breakfast in Hyde Park, Vermont). In 1828 Emma Smith married James-Edward Austen, nephew (and first biographer) of *Pride and Prejudice* author Jane Austen; this connection provided the opportunity to speak on the subject "Georgiana Darcy and the Naive Art of Young Ladies." Illustrated with images of artwork produced by three early-19th-century amateur artists, the talks are part of the inn's Jane Austen Weekends, held in January, August, September 2009 and January 2010.

Susan B. Iwanisziw, NCIS Vice President, has published the chapter "Tortured Bodies, Factionalism, and Unsettled Loyalties in Settle's Morocco Plays" in James Robert Allard and Mathew R. Martin, eds, *Staging Pain, 1580–1800: Violence and Trauma in British Theater* (Farnham, UK: Ashgate Publishing Co., 2009).

In May 2009, Mahala Yates Stripling was a Yaddo artist at the working community on 400 wooded acres outside of Saratoga Springs, NY. While there she began work on Volume II of her biography of Richard Selzer (Volume I is in the publisher's pipeline.)

Shannon Granville has published "Downing Street Favourite Soap Opera: Evaluating the Impact and Influence of *Yes, Minister* and *Yes, Prime Minister*," *Contemporary British History* (September 2009). On November 8, she will be presenting "Exploring *Master Keaton's* Germany: A Japanese Perspective on the End of the Cold War" at "November 9, 1989—The Fall of the Berlin Wall, Twenty Years After" conference at the University of Cincinnati in Cincinnati, OH.

Book Announcements

Harrison Solow's book *Felicity & Barbara Pym* will be available in May 2010. *Felicity & Barbara Pym* is a cross-genre (fiction and nonfiction) literary work that has its roots in Harrison Solow's own search as an undergraduate for "a magnificently unified microcosm" of the world. Felicity is the silent fictional student with a "happy disregard" for centuries of interrelated scholarship intrinsic to a liberal arts education, including a disregard for the tools of study and a blithe preoccupation with the present. Barbara Pym's work is hardly at the heart of a liberal education, but she is the antithesis to this prevailing attitude and her work has been undervalued. Appreciation is not perhaps what universities requests of students, says Solow, but this book is a work of literary appreciation via reasonable examination based on the premise that all subjects are interrelated.

Elk Plain Press is pleased to announce the publication this fall of *Rubbing Out Long Hair: The American Indian Story of the Little Big Horn in Art and Word* by Colonel Rodney G. Thomas, US Army, Retired. The book explores all known Indian art and narratives of the battle where Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer and five companies of the Seventh U.S. Cavalry Regiment were wiped out by combined forces of Lakota and Cheyenne soldiers in 1876. "If winners write the history, this battle is the one great exception," notes Thomas. *Rubbing Out Long Hair* is the first reference to publish all known Indian art of the battle of the Little Big Horn River in 1876. Twenty-six Indian artists are showcased in more than 250 images, most in full color, and coupled with narratives from both sides to tell a more complete story than ever before. Some of the art is well known, while most is not. The book is scheduled for release in October 2009.

Bette W. Oliver, an independent scholar specializing in late 18th-century France, is pleased to announce the publication of her new book *Orphans on the Earth: Girondin Fugitives from the Terror, 1793–1794* (Lexington Books, 2009). Drawing on the memoirs of François Buzot, Jérôme Pétion, Charles Barbaroux, and Jean-Baptiste Louvet, as well as the correspondence between Buzot and Madame Roland, the book examines the lives of these Girondin fugitives after their expulsion from the National Convention in spring 1793. Hiding for months in the home and attached stone quarry of the deputy Guadet's relatives in St.-Émilion, the fugitives managed to write their memoirs before they were discovered by Jacobin agents in the area. By the summer of 1794, only Louvet remained alive. While other books have examined their political activities between 1789 and 1793, *Orphans on the Earth* is the first book to focus primarily on the lives of these four Girondins as fugitives from the Terror.

In the Next Issue

- ❖ More independent bookshops for independent scholars
- ❖ Information about local and discipline-specific NCIS gatherings
- ❖ Funding announcements, calls for papers, and more!

The Independent Scholar, Vol. 23, Number 3, Fall 2009
(ISSN 1066-5633). ©2009 National Coalition of Independent Scholars.

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The Independent Scholar is published quarterly by the National Coalition of Independent Scholars (NCIS). NCIS is a nonprofit organization founded to improve the standing of independent scholars, www.ncis.org.

NCIS works to facilitate the interaction of independent scholars with libraries, research facilities, funding sources, and professional organizations. NCIS is an affiliate of the American Council of Learned Societies.

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Individual issues.....\$4 (\$5 outside U.S.)

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Deadlines for submitting articles, essays, and papers

February 15
May 15
August 15
November 15

Comments and concerns

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