

## AWARD WINNERS FY YEAR 2009-2010

### **Keith Botelho Abstract**

This interdisciplinary project, grounded in the burgeoning critical field known as ecocriticism (the study of the relationship between nature and literature), examines the ways in which bees became a potent metaphor during the Renaissance in a variety of discourses including politics, religion, and literature. Beginning first with an examination of early modern manuals, calendars, and treatises on gardening, home economy, and agriculture, I then look at the iconography of beekeeping, bees, and hives which attests to a heightened awareness of both the threat and utility of bees. The remainder of the project closely reads religious, political, and literary (poetic, prose, and dramatic) texts that foreground the imagery of “bee culture” (bees, honey, stinging, apiaries) in order to uncover how such discourse became a useful tool for understanding the early modern world.

### **Stephen Collins Abstract**

This book project examines the use of economic influence strategies in U.S. foreign policy; a practice commonly referred to as economic statecraft. The historical progression of American economic statecraft will be explored, and the process involved in formulating and implementing economic sanctions and incentives will be analyzed. A major aim of this project is to assess the impact of structural influences on the effectiveness of U.S. economic statecraft. The conventional wisdom suggests that economic statecraft is a futile, and even counterproductive, practice of foreign policy. The central argument of this work asserts that the efficacy of U.S. economic statecraft is not static; rather, it fluctuates in response to *polarity*: the polar distribution of power in the international system. Economic statecraft as employed by major powers is most effective, this work asserts, in unipolar systems; least effective in bipolar systems; and of mid-range effectiveness in multipolar systems. Consequently, a significant increase in the effectiveness of U.S. economic statecraft should have occurred after the demise of the bipolar era. This study tests this hypothesis utilizing quantitative and qualitative methodologies. A comparative statistical analysis of sanctions episodes in the multipolar period, the bipolar period, and the unipolar period constitutes the main quantitative test of this work. Additionally, this work employs case study analysis by examining the effect of economic sanctions and economic incentives on three leading issue-areas of American foreign policy: democracy promotion, terrorism, and nuclear proliferation.

### **Emron Esplin Abstract**

This project is a comparative analysis of Edgar Allan Poe’s relationship with twentieth-century Spanish American writers. During FY 2010, I plan to complete the initial reading and conduct archival research at several libraries in order to compile and analyze core data for an eventual book. I will also complete three smaller products that will allow me to assess and disseminate the project’s early ideas—a syllabus for an international summer school course on Poe and Spanish America, a conference paper on Poe and Jorge Luis Borges, and a revised version of the paper which I will submit to *Poe Studies/Dark Romanticism* for publication.

### **Mario Giraldo Abstract**

In 2008 thanks to a CETL award, I collected preliminary hydroclimatic and geographic data at the upper Chinchina watershed in the Colombian Andes. I also established a collaborative agreement with the Manizales utility company and researchers from the Caldas University in Colombia to study watershed behavior and stream yield. The purpose of the project I am presenting here is: to analyze the precipitation and watershed yield data collected in 2008, testing the hypothesis that correlations between those variables can be found to predict watershed behavior; and to finalize the field data collection started on summer 2008. This project will strengthen the collaboration among the department of Geography and Anthropology at KSU, the research group in water and soil at Caldas University in Colombia and the Manizales utility company. The project will produce a publication with the analysis and results of testing the above hypothesis; the remaining data needed to build the geodatabase required for a collaborative five year project studying watershed behavior in the Colombian Andes that can be submitted as a grant proposal for external funding.

### **Maureen McCarthy abstract**

Innovative undergraduate psychology curricula now have a new integrated statistics and research methods course and few texts are available for use. Maureen McCarthy has been at the forefront of curriculum development and teaching of integrated courses for over 25 years. As an author, she has written and presented extensively about her innovative practice. Dr. McCarthy, together with Dr. Beins, Ithaca College Professor of Psychology have secured a contract with Allyn and Bacon, a subsidiary of Pearson Publishing, to publish the first edition of the an integrated statistics and methods text. This book will provide a seamless introduction to the two scientific skills components of psychology. Together, Dr. McCarthy and Dr. Beins will produce an exciting and innovative text for the changing psychology curriculum.

### **Chenaz Seelarbokus abstract**

Why do states participate in International Environmental Agreements (IEAs), and what can account for the observed variation in the participation levels of states in IEAs? Research on state participation in IEAs is still an under-studied field, suffering from the lack of rigorous empirical analysis as well as solid theoretical construction for the various determinants of participation. My doctoral dissertation entitled "*The Influence of State and Treaty Characteristics on Participation in International Environmental Agreements (IEAs)*" has attempted to fill the existing gap in the field of state participation in IEAs by providing empirical analysis of key state and IEA variables influencing state participation in IEAs. Based on my initial findings, state participation in IEAs can be understood in terms of the following four major determinants: (i) impact of domestic and international institutions (ii) human development; (iii) power motivations; and (iv) IEA design. I am now interested in (i) converting my dissertation into a book; and (ii) pursuing further research into the field of state participation in IEAs by (a) categorizing state participation through an analysis of states' participation in specific groups of treaties; (b) expanding the number of global IEAs considered in the various models formulated; (c) including regional IEAs in the analysis; and (d) relating states' levels of participation in IEAs to their domestic environmental quality, assessed on those parameters which matter most for the specific IEAs.

## **Susan Smith abstract**

I propose to conduct original research on a human skeletal collection from an archaeological site in Crete, Greece. In order to foster undergraduate research, I will have a student assistant working with me on the project. This international research opportunity will contribute to the current body of knowledge of Late Roman life in Crete, a time period that has received very little scholarly attention. It will also provide for an intensive learning experience for a Kennesaw State University anthropology student. This project will be a continuation of the field school projects I have worked on in 2007 and 2008.

## **AWARD WINNERS FY 2008-2009**

### **Jesse Benjamin.      Completion of book, *Engaging Walter Rodney's Legacies.***

In 1998, I organized an historic international conference on the life and work of Walter Rodney, whose research and activism were cut short by assassination in his native Guyana in 1980. The three day gathering and symposium brought together for the first time members of his immediate family, leadership of the WPA [the party he was leading and running for president with at the time of his assassination], political leaders from the Caribbean and Africa, senior and leading scholars from Africa, Europe, North America and the Caribbean. He is a figure whose stature should place him in the company of W.E.B. DuBois, C.L.R. James, Martin Luther King and Malcolm X. However, his corpus of scholarship and his ground-breaking perspectives in the fields of history, sociology and Pan-Africanism are still little known outside of academia, and even there, little beyond his most famous work How Europe Underdeveloped Africa is known. At the conclusion of the conference, the delegates from around the world elected Asha Rodney, his daughter, and I as the editors of a collection that was to grow out of the conference. We have worked on the book ever since, and made steady progress, but the final results have been delayed by a crisis in the Rodney family, and limited time for the vast scope of our editorial responsibilities. This grant proposal aims to provide me with the necessary time and resources to complete this urgent and historic book, something that is well within reach at this time. The process of completing this book will also lead to a later collection of Rodney's major writing in a volume to reintroduce his varied thought to the world.

### **Laura Dabundo.      Completion of book, *Pray without Ending: the Anglican Tradition in William Wordsworth and Jane Austen***

William Wordsworth and Jane Austen, premier poet and novelist, respectively, of the English Romantic period, were baptized, confirmed, and buried (and for Wordsworth, married) in conformity with the Church of England with which they were both lifelong and unflagging communicants. But critics for the most part have sought to read and interpret their works apart from Christian realities. My project seeks to reveal the ways in which their faith and the established church inform and guide their writings. At its heart, English Romanticism acknowledges and celebrates a kind of community, I would like to argue, which is not just a secular collation of which its writers deal but something that also derives meaning from a

religious association and, in fact, a particularly defined religion. For, significantly, this community in the poetry is presented as consecrated, as holy, enabling Wordsworth, for instance, to employ the community of faith as a prevailing metaphor in his grand and vigorous autobiographical project, *The Prelude*. Jane Austen, within five years of being the poet's exact contemporary, undertakes a similar project in her fiction, I would like to argue. "The small band of true friends" with which *Emma* closes, as some critics have remarked, might well signal the end of all of her works for, as I see, working securely within a Romantic tradition, she nonetheless also finally embraces a social, communal, and external vision, religiously sanctified but also operationally national in much the same fashion as Wordsworth undertakes. Thus, I propose to consider in tandem the works of these two great writers toward this common earned project of a community of faith. This project builds upon essays, reviews, and presentations on the subject that have been my life's work.

**Roxanne Donovan    Survey research on Black women's susceptibility and resiliency to Anxiety**

Although there is a paucity of research on the prevalence and severity of anxiety in Black women, the findings from the studies that have been conducted are inconclusive. Some studies suggest that Black women are more susceptible to anxiety than men and White women because of a variety of risk factors, including increased likelihood of low socioeconomic status. Other studies suggest that Black women experience anxiety at rates similar to or less than those of men and White women. Clearly, additional research on Black women's susceptibility and/or resiliency to anxiety-related symptoms needs to be conducted to better understand these findings. The purpose of the present study is to examine how several variables previously linked theoretically or empirically to well-being influence Black women's anxiety, including help-seeking behavior, coping style, ethnic identity, internalized racism, and experiences of racism and sexism. My goal is to recruit 120 female, non-Hispanic Kennesaw State University students who identify as Black or African American. The participants will be given empirically validated questionnaires that measure the constructs of interest. To address specific aims, correlational and multiple regression analyses (examining zero-order, combined, and unique relationships between predictors and outcomes) will be conducted.

**Sabine Smith and    Research for book, *A Documentary History of the Third Reich*  
Catherine Lewis**

We are applying for a faculty scholarship to support the preliminary research for a collaborative book project, *A Documentary History of the Third Reich*, with an anticipated publication date of 2011. Several presses, including Routledge, Pearson, and the University of Nebraska Press have expressed keen interest in the project, and this grant would fund the development of the book proposal and selection of documents. Drs. Lewis and Smith have been collaborating together on a study abroad program for the past three years, have published an article with Dr. Hugh Hunt in an international journal which is part of a successful publishing record for both scholars, and are seeking a publisher with national reach. The volume offers readers an opportunity to examine the rise and fall of the Third Reich and would support Jackson J. Spielvogel's *Hitler and Nazi Germany*, the most popular and widely used introduction to the subject in print. There are

numerous monographs and memoirs focused on the Third Reich, but not a concise, affordable collection that include primary documents for classroom use. We propose a volume that has several special features (such as sample assignments, a timeline, and an annotated bibliography) that make it easier for faculty members to expand their pedagogical approaches in the classroom. We are requesting travel and research support for fall 2008 and spring 2009 in the amount of \$4,856.

**Barbara Gainey      Study of traditional and new media strategies to engage stakeholders in crisis communications**

A recently completed pilot study of Metro Atlanta's school districts has laid the groundwork for a national study examining how traditional and new media strategies are used to engage stakeholders and communicate crisis-related information. The proposed study will help develop a better understanding of the role of traditional and new media communication strategies in constructing effective crisis management through public engagement. The challenges of crisis management/crisis communication in the public educational sector will be examined on a national scale to expand the knowledge of communication scholars and suggest real-world solutions that can be applied. Through a national random study of public school districts and universities, this research will propose additional ways to improve the crisis-ready status of educational institutions, with implications for other organizations.

**Mario Giraldo      Rental of GPR (ground penetrating radar) equipment for analysis of soil moisture at the Little River watershed, Tifton, GA**

Soil moisture is a critical process in the water cycle and its assessment is of paramount importance to forecast changes in the water balance of a region. Ground penetrating radar (GPR) is cutting edge technology to sample soil moisture, generating digital images of the water infiltration process into the soil profile. Recent researches have stressed the need to validate GPR technology by comparing GPR readings with soil moisture readings from standards techniques under different landscapes. I will collect GPR and traditional soil moisture probe data at the Little River watershed near Tifton, GA, comparing and validating GPR data under different land use/land covers (LULC). This seed project will establish collaboration between the KSU Department of Geography and Anthropology, the geography department at UGA and the US Department of Agriculture. The project will generate a presentation for a conference, data for undergraduate research and teaching, and potentially a joint scientific publication with USDA and UGA scientists.

**Tony Grooms      Appraisal of literary archives of Allen Polite, Black American expatriate poet in Sweden**

I am applying for a grant of \$4,970 to support travel to Stockholm, Sweden for the purpose of evaluating the papers of expatriate black American poet and painter Allen Polite, with an eye toward seeking the publication and the archiving of these writings. Articles and presentations about this project are planned for the major African-American-focused literary journals and the major literature and American studies conferences. The travel is planned for 30 days in May and

June 2009, and the presentations are planned for fall 2009 and spring 2010. This project will serve as a re-introduction of a poet who had early influence on the writers of the New York and beat poetry schools, in particular on the major poet Amiri Baraka; but, it will also serve as a discovery for many scholars of American culture of the small, but vibrant community of expatriate black-American artists and activists who exiled themselves in Stockholm. During the 1960s and 70s, Polite was an undisputed leader of this community.

**Heeman Kim                      Survey research on cultural motives for utilizing social networking sites in Korea and United States**

This proposed research, "Cultural Motives for Utilizing Social Networking Sites," attempts to clarify communication motives for emerging information technology (Web 2.0) uses by examining social networking sites in cross-cultural domains. After being launched to the public as a peer to peer networking site on February 4th, 2004, facebook.com has a growing population of six million users at 2,100 colleges and universities and over 15,000 accounts are created daily. Also, in South Korea, cyworld.com has already been a popular social networking site specially designed for Koreans around the world since the beginning of 2000. Even though the social phenomenon looks similar in different cultural environments, users' motives and preferences for the medium have been different because members of different cultures have different communication needs and gratifications through that communication technology. This research therefore examines (1) whether there is a relationship between motives for utilizing social networking sites and contextual age (Rubin & Rubin's measurement is considered as the predictors of contextual age with media motives, such as physical health, interpersonal interaction, mobility, life satisfaction, social activity, and economic security) & (2) how cultural motives for utilizing personal weblogs differ between the U.S. and South Korea. With these findings, I will suggest an appropriate cultural design and content features on SNSs that enhances intercultural communication between the U.S. and Korea. A survey method is considered both in South Korea and in the U.S. Four hundred college students in the U.S. are recruited from a variety of undergraduate classes at a medium-size southeastern university, and four hundred in South Korea are employed at a medium-size Korean university in South Korea. I firmly believe that this research will contribute to a better understanding of the cultural uses of new communication technology at an intercultural level. Support for the research proposed here is an investment that will help the study and practice of public media and journalism at College of Humanities and Social Science at Kennesaw State and beyond. The results of the proposed research speak to the practical application of designing cross-cultural communication online that considers cultural differences in the use of new communication technology. In an increasingly global environment, the understanding of cultural differences can contribute greatly to the success of mutual cultural exchanges.