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# Oregon Humanities Center

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## 2012 Summer Report

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## Note from the Associate Director



Julia J. Heydon

*"The Oregon Humanities Center gave me the opportunity to connect ideas and disciplines with lived experience and invested listeners. This is what moves the humanities themselves from being merely interesting to [being] deeply useful..."*

*Taylor Donnelly, 2011–12 OHC Fellow*

This comment from one of our recent graduate fellows captures perfectly the essence of what we try to do every day here at the Oregon Humanities Center: that is, connect people with ideas in a way that is useful, real, and inspiring. This vision lies behind almost everything we do—our work-in-progress talks, our *UO Today* interviews, and all of our public programs. Our series of events this year on the theme of "Conflict" was a multi-faceted, interdisciplinary look at the many ways conflict, in a variety of forms, impacts each of us daily, whether or not we are aware of it.

We began the year with Stacy Bannerman's talk (Tzedek Lecture) in October 2011 titled "The War At Home." Bannerman presented a candid look at the profound and all-too-often ignored effects of war on the spouses and children of soldiers. The wife of an Oregon Army Reservist who was called up for a tour of duty in Iraq, Bannerman offered a uniquely personal and poignant account of some of the unintended consequences of war.

That event was followed in early November by the world premiere of a documentary film, *In the Telling*, based on a theater produc-

tion originally supported by the OHC and Theatre Arts.

In this film, veterans shared their personal stories of military service and the challenges of returning to civilian life after being soldiers. The premiere was especially meaningful because we invited members of the original theater cast and film crew to participate in a celebratory reception beforehand, and lead a discussion with the audience following the screening. In addition to the campus premiere, we took the film into the community with two free showings at the Bijou Arts Cinema.

November 2011 also saw the visit to Eugene of Australian environmentalist and sustainability consultant Paul Gilding (Cressman Lecture), who shared his thoughts on a serious conflict of a different sort: the

*continued on page 3*



*Clockwise from top: Stacy Bannerman; Max Rayneard, co-creator and writer of In the Telling; and Patrice Baker, student veteran.*

## Graduate fellows launch their careers

### Zhang examines women's writing in late imperial China



During my residence at the Oregon Humanities Center, I worked on my dissertation project titled “A Female Rewriting of History: *Tanci Fiction Jing zhong zhuan* (*Biography of Dedication and Loyalty*).” Women’s writing in late imperial China is still a relatively new area in Chinese studies. Contrary to the old impression that Chinese women before the 20th century were a silent group with bound feet and confined by neo-Confucianism, research in the past two decades has started uncovering their learning and writing talents. However,

by far most studies focus on poetry written by women. My dissertation thus turns to women’s *tanci* fiction, less-known today, but once a popular narrative form with women as primary writers and readers. I study a particular woman writer, Zhou Yingfang (1829–1895), and her *tanci* fiction *Jing zhong zhuan*, a complex story about a military general who fought against the Jurchens to defend the Chinese Song Dynasty in the twelfth century. I investigate how the woman author redefines patriotism and rewrites grand history from a gendered perspective. This dissertation contributes to the ongoing process of uncovering and reconstructing a new history about women in late imperial China.



*Jing zhong zhuan*

one term to focus on the dissertation without worrying about teaching. The Center provided a quiet and comfortable writing environment. Being close to the Knight Library and the gorgeous view from the window made the Oregon Humanities Center a perfect location for writing. During my [fellowship term] the Oregon Humanities Center also organized a work-in-progress talk about my project, which gave me a chance to introduce my dissertation to and receive feedback from a broader audience. I used the travel grant [provided by the fellowship] to go to the American Comparative Literature Association 2012 annual meeting in March, presenting one dissertation chapter at the panel on “Women and Historical Transitions.” As a young dissertation fellow, and especially as an international graduate student originally from a different culture, I also received great advice from the staff here, ranging from office logistics to job search guidance.

This August I will [begin a job] as a visiting assistant professor of Chinese language and culture at the University of North Dakota. The dissertation fellowship has greatly enhanced

my academic experience in the U.S. With the support and encouragement I have received from the Oregon Humanities Center, I feel more confident in my future academic journey.

Yu Zhang, EALL PhD and  
2011-12 OHC Graduate Dissertation Fellow

### Donnelly gains insights into literary depictions of madness



I am extraordinarily grateful to have been the recipient of a Humanities Center Graduate Research Fellowship for the year 2011–12. The funds allocated by this fellowship enabled me to travel overseas to a conference at the University of Leicester in July of 2011, where I presented research on madness in musical theater. This research was later reworked and incorporated into the second chapter of my dissertation.

The conference, entitled “All the Ward’s a Stage: Madness and Drama,” was sponsored by the British Association of Medical Humanities. This interdisciplinary association is one of several that address the confluence of academia and practice, and the conversations I was able to have with doctors, nurses, historians, filmmakers, and many others were invaluable to broadening the scope of my ideas. (They also required me to find clear, un-jargoned ways to express myself, which I believe improved my writing, too.) My dissertation, “Vogue Diagnoses,” argues that literary and theatrical representations of madness can have significant material consequences, and the activist or advocate element of my work was immensely strengthened by these interdisciplinary conversations. It would have been impossible for me to afford the travel prerequisite without the aid of the Oregon Humanities Center.

During the whole of my fellowship period, I drafted three dissertation chapters and then revised the entire five-chapter project. I successfully defended “Vogue Diagnoses” in May of 2012. The positive feedback and stimulating conversations of the defense were in many ways owed to the practice I had both in Leicester and in Eugene.... I owe the OHC deep and lasting thanks for helping me discover usefulness in my own work.

Taylor Donnelly, English PhD and  
2011-12 OHC Graduate Research Fellow

## OHC fellowships do make a difference! Here's how you can help...

What scholars often need most is *time*—time for reading, reflecting, writing, revising, and talking with others about their ideas. This is precisely what OHC fellowships provide: precious time, away from the usual demands of teaching, to focus entirely on research for one term. The results are abundantly apparent. Graduate students are able to complete their degrees and start their careers, as did the two graduate fellows who are featured on the facing page, and more senior humanities scholars are able to publish articles and books—an essential requirement for their professional advancement.

Funding for fellowships is one of our most pressing needs at the moment. If you would like to help create or sustain a productive humanities scholar, please consider making a gift to the Oregon Humanities Center for one of our fellowship programs. Your gift could change a life—or several! For more information, please contact Julia Heydon, Associate Director, at (541) 346-1001 or [jheydon@uoregon.edu](mailto:jheydon@uoregon.edu).



*Emily Gilkey, History and 2011–12 Graduate Research Fellow, discussing her dissertation “Lover, Husband, Friend: Marriage and Infertility in Nineteenth-Century Lyon” at the OHC fellows’ luncheon on October 7, 2011.*

### Note *(continued from page 1)*

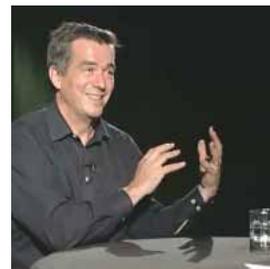
conflict between unbridled consumption and the planet’s limited carrying capacity. The message of his talk, “The Mother of All Conflicts,” while sobering, was delivered with optimism and humor. Gilding warned, however, that for the sake of all living things on the planet, we must learn to live more sustainably and we must act immediately. A true sustainability evangelist, Gilding took every opportunity while he was in Eugene to meet with students, faculty, and community leaders to share his message and his vision of how we might build a better future. He gave away dozens of copies of his latest book, *The Great Disruption*, in an effort to help spread the word.

Doug Peacock (Clark Lecture), a Vietnam veteran and former Green Beret medic, addressed conflict in yet another guise: the conflict over habitat and resources, which climate change is imposing on large predator species and their human co-inhabitants. Peacock’s work during the past several decades has focused mainly on the grizzly bear and the territorial pressures placed on this iconic predator by humans, but his wide-ranging, impressionistic talk touched on conflict in a variety of forms, including his personal struggle to find inner peace after returning from Vietnam with severe PTSD.

In April, art therapist Linda Chapman

(O’Fallon Lecture) shared her views on the use of art and creative play to help heal the inner conflict suffered by children and youth who have been the victims of violence and trauma. Chapman is doing ground-breaking work on understanding the neurobiological causes of violent behavior and addressing it through art therapy. Her slide lecture included case studies and art work created by some of her clients, which made her talk especially rich and thought-provoking not only for the mental health care professionals in the audience, but also for parents, teachers, and the general public.

We ended our “Conflict” series with powerful and compelling lectures by Andrew Bacevich (Kritikos Lecture), a retired Army Colonel and Vietnam veteran who spoke to more than 300 people in Eugene, and to a crowd of 650 at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland. Bacevich is now a professor of history and international relations at Boston University. An outspoken critic of the U.S. military, and of our penchant for using power instead of diplomacy to achieve our foreign policy aims, Bacevich decries our state of “perpetual warfare,” and notes that it comes at great cost, including

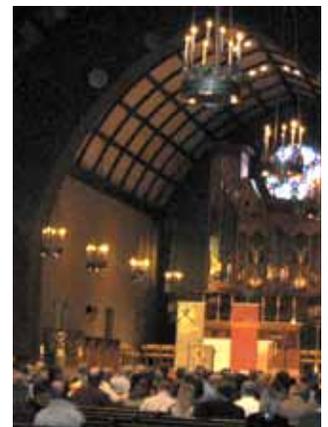


*Clockwise from left: Paul Gilding on UO Today; Doug Peacock; and Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland.*

the senseless squandering of human lives and natural resources.

We hope that our year-long exploration of “Conflict” helped you think about this topic in some new ways that are both useful and inspiring for you. It certainly did that for me and others here at the OHC. We look forward to seeing you this coming year at our events on the theme of “being human | human being.”

*Julia J. Heydon,  
OHC Associate Director*



# Snapshots from the *In the Telling* film premiere



Left: OHC director, Barbara Altmann with Jon Wei, director and writer of *In the Telling*.



Right: Kenda Hills Singer and Kenneth Singer, OHC Board of Visitors member.



Right: Caroline Morris, producer and writer of *In the Telling* with Jack and Jill Overley, OHC Board of Visitors members.



Above: Lemuel Charley, student-veteran actor and videographer, on the post-screening discussion panel.



Above: Sharon Duncan and James Duncan, OHC Board of Visitors member, with Jeremy Botwinick, member of the *In the Telling* film crew.



Left: Nancy Raymond and Ken Kodama, OHC Board of Visitors member, with Caroline Morris.

## 2011-12 by the numbers

**“Conflict” events: 44** (collaboration with 20 departments)

**OHC cosponsored events: 86**

**Attendance at OHC events: 1,874**

**Live webcast viewers: 166** (3 events)

**UO Today shows taped: 34**

**Fellowships granted: 17** (11 faculty fellowships, 6 graduate student fellowships)

**Work-in-Progress talks: 15**

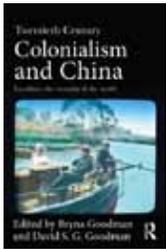
**Website unique visitors: 6,893**

**Website page views: 25,066**

**Facebook friends: 137** 

# Recent publications supported by the OHC

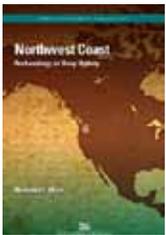
## Books published by recent OHC Research Fellows



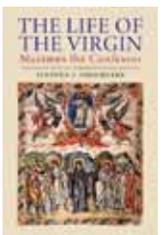
**Bryna Goodman and David S. G. Goodman**, eds., *Twentieth Century Colonialism and China: Localities, the Everyday, and the World*. Routledge, 2012.



**David M. Luebke** with Jared Poley, Daniel C. Ryan, and David W. Sabean, eds., *Conversion and the Politics of Religion in Early Modern Germany*. Berghahn Books, 2012.



**Madonna L. Moss**, *Northwest Coast: Archaeology as Deep History*. Society for American Archaeology Press, 2011.



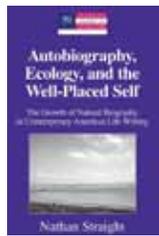
**Stephen J. Shoemaker**, *The Life of the Virgin: Maximus the Confessor* (translated with an introduction and notes). Yale University Press, 2012.



**Carol Silverman**, *Romani Routes: Cultural Politics and Balkan Music in Diaspora*. Oxford University Press, 2012.



**Marian Smith**, *La Sylphide: Paris 1832 and Beyond*. Dance Books, London, 2012.



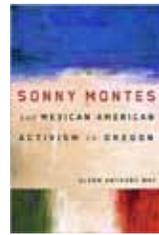
**Nathan Straight**, 2002-3 OHC Graduate Fellow, *Autobiography, Ecology, and the Well-Placed Self: The Growth of Natural Biography in Contemporary American Life Writing*. (Series: *Modern American Literature*, Volume 59.)

Peter Lang Publishing, 2011.

## Finalists for the 2012 Oregon Book Awards



**Geri Doran**, *Sanderlings*. Tupelo Press, July 2011. Finalist for Stafford/Hall Award for Poetry.



**Glenn May**, *Sonny Montes and Mexican American Activism in Oregon*. Oregon State University Press, June 2011. Finalist for the Frances Fuller Victor Award for General Nonfiction.

## Fellows' Chapters and Articles

**Pedro García-Caro**, "Las minas del Rey Fernando: plata, oro, y la barbarie española en la retórica independentista hispanoamericana." *Anales de Literatura Hispanoamericana* 40 (fall): 39-59.

**David M. Luebke**, "A multiconfessional empire" in *Brill's Companion to Multiconfessionalism in the Early Modern World*, ed. by Thomas Max Safley. Brill, 2011.

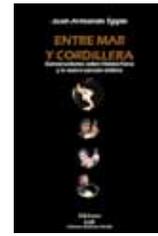
**Luebke**, "Customs of confession: managing religious diversity in late sixteenth- and early seventeenth-century Westphalia" in *Dissent and Diversity: Negotiating Religious Difference in Central Europe, 1500-1800*, eds. Howard Louthan, Gary Cohn, and Franz Szabo. Berghahn Books, 2011.

**Luebke**, "The politics of conversion in early modern Germany" in *Conversion and the Politics of Religion in Early Modern Germany*, eds. David M. Luebke, et al. Berghahn Books, 2012.

**Stephen Rodgers**, "Fanny Hensel's Lied Aesthetic," *Journal of Musicological Research* 30 (July-September 2011): 175-201.

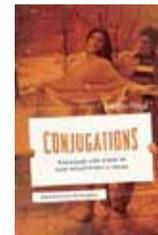
**Cynthia Tolentino**, "Post-1898 Imaginative Geographies: Puerto Rican Migration in 1950's Film," *Journal of Transnational American Studies* 3, no. 2 (2011).

## Books published with OHC/CAS Subvention funds

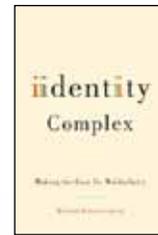


**Juan Armando Epple**, *Entre mar y cordillera. Conversaciones sobre Violeta Parra y la Nueva Canción Chilena (Between the Sea and the Mountain: Conversations on Violeta Parra and the New Chilean Song Movement)*.

Concepción, Chile: Ediciones LAR (Literatura Americana Reunida), 2012.



**Sangita Gopal**, *Conjugations: Marriage and Form in New Bollywood Cinema*. University of Chicago Press, 2012.



**Michael Hames-García**, *Identity Complex: Making the Case for Multiplicity*. University of Minnesota Press, 2011.



**Hames-García and Ernesto Javier Martínez**, eds., *Gay Latino Studies: A Critical Reader*. Duke University Press, 2011. (2012 Lambda Literary Award for LGBT anthology)



**David J. Vazquez**, *Triangulations: Narrative Strategies for Navigating Latino Identity*. University of Minnesota Press, 2011.



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