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Oregon Humanities Center

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Fall 2013

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Visionary educator shares approach to teaching urban youth: “growing roses in concrete”

There is an educational crisis looming in many urban communities today: high crime rates correlate strongly with low high school graduation rates, which in turn lead to a perpetuation of the

cycle of poverty and crime. The state-wide high school graduation rate in California is 78%. In East Oakland, CA, a community riddled by poverty and violence, the rate is just 62%. For black males from East Oakland, the graduation rate is below 50%. Visionary high school English teacher **Jeff Duncan-Andrade**, himself an East Oakland resident, decided this was completely unacceptable, and dedicated himself to radically reforming a system that he boldly refers to as “educational malpractice.” On **Monday, November 25th at 7:30 p.m. in 180 PLC**, Duncan-Andrade will present the Cressman Lecture, “**Note to Educators: Hope Required When Growing Roses in Concrete.**” In this talk he will describe

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Paul Peppis takes the reins as OHC Interim Director for the 2013–14 academic year

While the Director’s Report appears annually in the winter issue of the Oregon Humanities Center newsletter, I wanted to take this opportunity and contribute a few words to the fall issue to introduce myself as the interim director of the OHC for 2013–14. As many of you know, Barbara K. Altmann, who has led the center with such grace and success for the past five years, has moved on to the position of Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. I am humbled and honored to be taking the helm from Barbara at this important moment in the history of the OHC and of the humanities, and I am eager to build on the many accomplishments achieved during her tenure.

An Associate Professor of English at UO since 1995, I am a humanist scholar who specializes in British modernist literature of the early twentieth century. In my scholarship, I study relations between literature and life, especially

how particular works of twentieth-century literature engage with the social, political, and scientific movements of their time. For the past three years, I have served on the OHC Advisory Board, and I had the honor and pleasure of hosting *UO Today* while Barbara was on sabbatical during winter and spring of 2012. These experiences have given me a keen appreciation of the work and workings of the OHC, and I look forward to collaborating closely with our exceptional staff, Associate Director Julia J. Heydon, program coordinator Melissa Gustafson,



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Duncan-Andrade *continued from page 1*



his approach to critical pedagogy and the success it has led to for his students.

Duncan-Andrade applied concepts from both teaching and coaching to develop a pedagogical approach for students in inner-city schools, “Step to College,” which he has been practicing now for more than 20 years in East Oakland. Duncan-Andrade’s method relies on building deep and lasting relationships with his students throughout their four-year high school career and beyond. The academically demanding program focuses first and foremost upon developing students as young people, community members, and individuals. Teaching twelve basic “life principles” in addition to critical thinking skills, Duncan-Andrade creates a foundation that allows his students to make sense of school in the broader scope of their lives.

The results of Duncan-Andrade’s ap-

proach speak for themselves: 100% of his students go on to college. What’s more, they make a commitment to return to their community and contribute in some way once they have earned their college degrees. Engendering a sense of accountability and personal responsibility, and emphasizing the importance of giving back to the community, is a major focus of Duncan-Andrade’s teaching philosophy. “The point of education is not to escape poverty—the point of education is to end it,” Duncan-Andrade says.

Duncan-Andrade, PhD, is Associate Professor of Raza Studies and Education at San Francisco State University, and Director of the Educational Equity Initiative at the Institute for Sustainable Economic, Educational, and Environmental Design (ISEEED). He has lectured around the world on the elements of effective teaching in schools serving poor and working class children.

In addition, he continues to work as an English teacher at Mandela High School in East Oakland. He is currently



engaged in designing and launching a new K-12 charter school in East Oakland with plans to open in Fall 2015. The school will employ some of his former students as teachers.

Duncan-Andrade is the author of numerous journal articles and book chapters, as well as two books, *The Art of Critical Pedagogy: Possibilities for Moving from Theory to Practice in Urban Schools*, and *What a Coach Can Teach a Teacher*, both with Peter Lang Publishing. He is currently completing his third book on the core competencies of highly effective urban educators with Routledge Press.

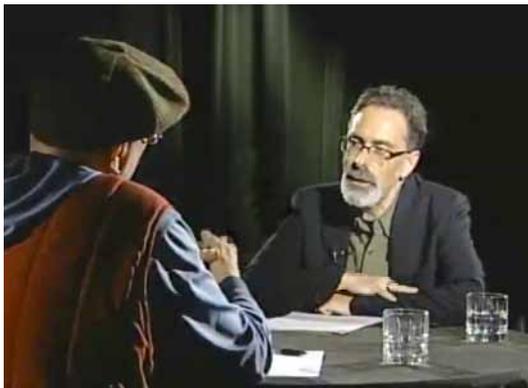
The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, or for disability accommodations (which must be made by Nov. 18th), please contact us at (541) 346-3934.

Peppis *continued from page 1*

and communications coordinator and producer of *UO Today* Peg Freas Gearhart, as well as with the Advisory Board and Board of Visitors, to sustain and advance the OHC’s mission to promote and strengthen the humanities, both on campus and in the broader community.

I hope to see many of our friends and supporters at the Center’s various public events this year, especially our 2013–14 lecture series, “Vulnerable,” which begins on Monday, November 25th with this year’s Luther S. and Dorothy Cecilia Cressman Lecture with Jeffrey Duncan-Andrade [See story page 1]. Duncan-Andrade will draw on his unique experiences as an educator,

especially his practice and study of the use of critical pedagogy in urban high schools, to engage and respond to our “Vulnerable” theme. Professor Duncan-Andrade’s lecture prom-



Paul Peppis interviewed activist Bill Ayers on UO Today on April 25, 2012.

ises to make a provocative and exciting opening to another year of stimulating lectures and events at the Oregon Humanities Center. Please come and join us!

Work-In-Progress talks are given by OHC research fellows on their current or recent work on **Fridays at noon** in the Humanities Center Conference Room, **159 PLC**. Brown-bag lunches are welcome.

October 25

Chet Lisiecki, Graduate Student, Comparative Literature: “*Was noch lebt, ist Traum: The Roots and Resonances of Conservative Poetics in Late Weimar and Nazi Germany*”

November 8

Aaron Rodriguez, Graduate Student, Philosophy: “The Echo of God’s Laughter: Aesthetic Experience and the Virtue of Openness within a Pragmatist Ethics”

November 15

Sangita Gopal, English: “Two Takes on Modernity: Self-Reflexivity and North Indian Popular Cinema”

November 22

Dorothee Ostmeier, German and Scandinavian: “The Grimms’ Concept of Nature as Healing Fiction”

December 6

Karen McPherson, Romance Languages: “Growing Old and Realizing Life in Marie-Claire Blais’s *Soifs Cycle*”

2014–15 OHC Fellowship applications available now

Find guidelines and download applications at ohc.uoregon.edu

Faculty

Deadlines:

October 28, 2013—CAS faculty

November 4, 2013—all other faculty

Research Fellowships

- OHC fellowships: one term free from teaching to engage in full-time research
- Ernest G. Moll Fellowship in Literary Studies (awarded to outstanding proposal in literary studies): one term free from teaching plus \$1,000 in research support
- **New!** RIGE Completion Awards: provide faculty with time to finish a project intended for publication
- Provost's Senior Humanist Fellowships for Full and senior Associate Professors: one term free from teaching

Teaching Fellowships

- \$3,000 summer support to develop or substantially modify a course
- Up to \$1,000 in course enhancement funds
- Team-teaching applications eligible

Coleman-Guitteau Professorship

- \$3,000 summer support to develop or substantially modify a course
- Up to \$4,000 in course enhancement funds
- Team-teaching applications encouraged

Wulf Professorship

- \$3,000 summer support to develop or substantially modify a course
- Up to \$4,000 in course enhancement funds
- Team-teaching applications eligible

Vice President Espy provides funds for completion award

Beginning in AY 2014–15, the Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Graduate Education has offered to fund up to three Completion Awards as part of the OHC Research Fellowship program. In contrast with other fellowships, RIGE Completion Awards are designed specifically to provide faculty with time to finish the final stages of a project intended for publication. We strongly encourage applications from faculty engaged in projects that could be ready for publication if they had a term free from teaching. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate that they plan to complete a manuscript (e.g. an article, book chapter, book, or edited volume) and submit it for publication at the end of or immediately following their fellowship term.



For more information about this opportunity go to: ohc.uoregon.edu/rige or contact Julia Heydon, Associate Director, (541) 346-1001.

Graduate Students

Graduate guidelines and applications available soon.
Deadline: February 3, 2014

Graduate Dissertation Fellowships

In partnership with the UO Graduate School, the OHC offers Graduate Dissertation Fellowships that provide students with a term free from teaching to work full time on their dissertations.

- For those who will be in their final full year of graduate studies during 2014–15
- \$5,500 non-service stipend to provide a term free from teaching
- One-term tuition waiver

Graduate Research Fellowships

The Graduate Research Support Fellowship provides up to \$1,000 for doctoral students to assist with their research and the completion of their dissertations.

OHC welcomes four new Advisory Board members

The Oregon Humanities Center is pleased to introduce four new members of the Faculty Advisory Board. The new members are (pictured in order): **Elizabeth Bohls**, English; **Daisuke Miyao**, East Asian Languages and Literatures; **Jeffrey Ostler**, History; and **Scott Pratt**, Philosophy.



Outgoing Advisory Board members are: **Susan Anderson**, German and Scandinavian; **Paul Peppis**, English; **Judith Raiskin**, Women's and Gender Studies; and **Stephen Shoemaker**, Religious Studies. We extend our sincere thanks to all outgoing members for their service.



The Faculty Advisory Board is vital to the effective functioning of the Center. The director and associate director depend on Board members to review fellowship applications, advise on policy issues affecting the Center, suggest lecturers and conference topics, and help disseminate information and announcements to other humanities faculty and graduate students.



Rodgers finishes doctorate

We recently bade farewell to our Administrative Assistant, **Lindsey Henriksen Rodgers**. She completed her dissertation and graduated from the School of Music and Dance with a Ph.D. in Musicology and Organ Performance in June 2013. Her dissertation was titled "The North German Chorale Fantasia: A Sermon Without Words." Lindsey continues her work as the assistant organist at Central Lutheran Church and as young Samuel's mom. Samuel celebrated his first birthday in August.





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The University of Oregon is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To arrange disability accommodations for Humanities Center events or to obtain this report in an alternative format, call 541-346-3934.

Nortec Collective performs in Eugene

The OHC's Endowment for Public Outreach in the Arts, Sciences, and Humanities has provided funding for Nortec Collective's visit to the University of Oregon. Organized by the Department of Education Studies, events include a screening of the documentary film *Tijuana: Sonidos del Nortec* (2012, 57 minutes) followed by a discussion with Nortec Collective band members on Friday, November 22 at 6 p.m. in 123 Global Scholars Hall; and a performance by Nortec Collective Presents: Bostich + Fussible (full band) at the McDonald Theatre in downtown Eugene on Saturday, November 23 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 from TicketsWest (\$15 at the door).

Based primarily in Tijuana, Mexico, just across the border from San Diego, CA, the nortec movement took shape in the late 1990s. Cutting-edge electronic music was fused with traditional Mexican music of the region such as norteño and banda, resulting in the nortec ("norteño" + "techno") style. Electronic music had little presence in Mexico at

the time. Eventually, a group of these nortec artists came together under the banner of the Nortec Collective.

Nortec Collective Presents: Bostich + Fussible has been nominated for two Latin Grammys, and their 2008 album *Tijuana Sound Machine* was nominated for "Best Latin Rock/Alternative Album" at the 2006 Grammy Awards. They are featured in four books, most notably *Paso del Nortec: This is Tijuana* and *Nortec Rifa!: Electronic Dance Music from Tijuana to the World*. They have toured Latin America, Japan, Europe, and the U.S. The November 23, 2013 show in Eugene will mark the first time the full band will perform in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

For more information about these events contact Edward Olivos at (541) 346-2983.

