

C L E M E N T S C E N T E R F O R



SOUTHWEST STUDIES



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NEWSLETTER

September 2002

From the Director:

In May the Clements Center ended its sixth year of operations. Thanks to generous grants from the Summerlee, King, and Summerfield Roberts foundations, the Center has been able to support sixteen residential fellows over the last six years. Without these grants, the Center's budget would have supported only six fellows--one a year.

Fellowships at the Clements Center have changed the career trajectories of young scholars, helping them write better books, find better publishers, and land better jobs than they could have without the time and support that we provide. The three members of our class of 2001-02 each ended up with fine academic appointments for this autumn: Pekka Hämmäläinen at Texas A&M; Omar Valerio-Jiménez at California State University, Long Beach; Martina Will de Chaparro at Texas Women's University. [*See inside for this year's fellows.*]

Grants from foundations helped jumpstart our program and we are deeply grateful. Foundation support ended in May having served its purpose of providing seed money for us to grow on. Now, thanks to gifts from generous friends of the Center and increased support from the Clements Department of History, the Center has sufficient funds to support three fellows per year on its own in perpetuity. The heart of our funding comes, of course, from Bill and Rita Clements' remarkable endowment for the Center and the History Department.

Residential fellowships and the books that flow from them are at the heart of our program, but we are engaged in promoting scholarship in many other ways. For example, we also give short-term fellowships to scholars who need access to the DeGolyer Library. Thanks to the Clements Department of History, we have increased the number of those week-

long grants from 8 to 12, and those mini-grants continue to attract scholars from around the nation as well as from Spain and Latin America. [*See inside.*]

The Center has planned symposia through the year 2005, and some of those meetings will result in books. The pattern is already clear. Under the direction of Hal Rothman from the University of Nevada, the participants in a conference on tourism in the Southwest (2000) have fashioned their essays into a book to be published by the University of New Mexico Press; Sherry Smith has edited the essays from a conference on the future of the southern Plains (2001), to be published by the University of Oklahoma Press. Scholars involved in a conference on social control in the Spanish borderlands (2002) are currently revising their work for the University of New Mexico Press. [*News of an exciting conference scheduled for September 21 is inside.*]

Books continue to be the Center's stock in trade, as this newsletter suggests. I especially want to call to your attention the spectacular book of previously unpublished documents edited by Richard Flint, *Great Cruelties Have Been Reported: The 1544 Investigation of the Coronado Expedition*, published by SMU Press in Cooperation with the Clements Center, and the reprint of Lewis Hanke's classic work, *The Spanish Struggle for Justice in the Conquest of America*, also published by SMU Press in Cooperation with the Center, and with a new foreword by Peter Bakewell (SMU History) and Susan Scafidi (SMU Law).

I'll be teaching at Harvard this autumn. Executive Director, Andrea Boardman, and Associate Director Sherry Smith—back from a year of research and writing—will be minding the store. We are all pleased that Ruth Ann Elmore joined the Clements Center in July as administrative coordinator to assist with our growing number of activities.

David J. Weber



Please welcome our three newly arrived Bill and Rita Clements Research Fellows for the Study of Southwestern America

The fellows will spend the academic year at the Clements Center, transforming their dissertations into book-length manuscripts. Each will have the opportunity to invite three leading scholars in their fields to participate in a detailed review of his/her manuscript in order to refine it in terms of content, style, and readability for the widest possible audience. The fellows' résumés can be found on the Clements Center's website. The Clements Fellows are selected annually from a talented pool of applicants. The Center appreciates the hard work of this year's judges: history professors Alexis McCrossen and Peter Bakewell, and anthropology professor David Meltzer, who were joined by David Weber.

Flannery Burke received her Ph.D. in History with a minor in Cultural Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, May 2002. Her dissertation was entitled **"Finding What They Came For: The Mabel Dodge Luhan Circle and the Making of a Modern Place, 1912-1930."** Her advisor was William Cronon. Dr. Burke's research interests include The American West, Race and Ethnicity, Cultural and Intellectual History, Gender and Sexuality History, and Visual Culture. Dr. Burke will teach a course in the spring semester. She offers this summary of her dissertation: "It follows the transformation of a Greenwich Village salon, led by woman-about-town Mabel Dodge, into its final incarnation as a Taos, New Mexico art colony. By looking for the continuities between New York's avant-garde communities of the 1910s and the artist communities of northern New Mexico in the 1920s, I demonstrate the importance of southwestern places to early twentieth-century modernism. At the center of my analysis is a detailed examination of the racial and ethnic relations between Dodge and her predominantly white circle of patrons and the African American, Native American, and Hispano artists who responded to the benefits and challenges of the Dodge circle's patronage. I argue that patrons based their patronage on comparisons that they made among several non-white groups. I call this phenomenon 'competitive primitivism,' and argue that it gave non-white artists unusual opportunities to influence the content and the nature of the patronage they received."

Colleen O'Neill is an Assistant Professor, in the Ethnic Studies Department of California Polytechnic State University. She received her Ph.D. in History from Rutgers University in 1997. The manuscript she will be working on this year is entitled: **"Making a Living and Working Elsewhere: Navajo Workers in the Twentieth Century."** Dr. O'Neill has already found a publisher: the University Press of Kansas. She describes her manuscript as one that "explores how Navajo workers and small-scale producers engaged the market economy in the mid 20th century as weavers, coal miners and as off-reservation wage workers. These Navajo stories suggest an alternative to the classic modernization tale, one that assumes that as soon as indigenous people encounter the capitalist market, their cultural traditions erode and subsistence economies decay. In contrast, my research clearly demonstrates that, in the Navajo case, during the critical middle years of the twentieth century, economic development was a fluid process, one that shapes and is shaped by local systems of power and culturally defined variables such as race, age, gender, and region. The Diné helped to define the terms of local economic conditions as they worked for wages and produced coal, rugs and other items for the market. At the same time, they were drawn into the growing capitalist economy, they articulated a competing vision of capitalist transformation, one that would incorporate Navajo culture and values at its very core."

Tisa J. Wenger received her Ph.D. in Religion from Princeton University in 2002. Her dissertation was entitled "Savage Debauchery or Sacred Communion? Religion and the Primitive in the Pueblo Dance Controversy." Her advisors were Leigh Schmidt, Albert Raboteau, Jeffrey Stout, and David Carrasco. Dr. Wenger will teach a course in the spring. She describes her dissertation, and the manuscript she will work on this year, as focusing "on the Pueblo dance controversy of the 1920s, when competing groups of reformers battled over the Bureau of Indian Affairs' attempts to suppress the practice of many Native American ceremonial dances. Missionaries and Christian reformers alleged that the dances of the Pueblo tribes of New Mexico were sexually immoral and degrading, while artists and modernist reformers saw the Pueblos as the precious remnant of a vital primitive religious offering potential spiritual resources for the revitalization of modern civilization. Pueblo religion came to represent both the savage debauchery into which Christian reformers feared American society could fall, and on the other side the ecstatic heights of sacred communion to which modernist reformers hoped it might climb. By examining the networks of discourse about 'primitive' religion in which missionaries, anthropologists, artists, and reformers were

involved, this dissertation explores the interplay between popular and scholarly discourses in the early twentieth century development of the study of religion.”



Clements Center's Publication News



The Clements Center is proud to announce a new book in its “publishing-on-demand” series: **The Diary of Juan Domínguez de Mendoza's Expedition into Texas (1683-1684)**. It is a critical edition of the Spanish text with facsimile reproductions, edited and with an introduction by **Dr. Brian Imhoff**, Assistant Professor of Spanish at Texas A & M University. The Domínguez de Mendoza expedition into Texas, from December 15, 1683, to July 18, 1684, is one of the earliest explorations of west-central Texas. The diary offers some of the most vivid descriptions of Spanish contact with Native Americans and the natural world. This edition presents the expedition diary in Spanish for the first time, along with a full critical apparatus, annotated commentary, and two facsimile full-text reproductions. The analysis, in English, is based on the seven known manuscripts, two of which have not been discussed previously in the extant literature; it provides useful information for historians, anthropologists, and scholars of other disciplines as well as for philologists. For order information, please see our web site.

Nancy Beck Young, one of the first Clements Fellows in Southwest Studies (1996-97), won the 2000 D. B. Hardeman Prize for her biography of a legendary Texas politician, *Wright Patman: Populism, Liberalism, and the American Dream*. The \$1,000 Hardeman Prize is funded by a grant from the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation. Candidates are judged on the importance of their contribution to scholarship on the Congress, and their literary craftsmanship, originality, and depth of research. Dr. Young worked on her manuscript while at SMU during her year as a Clements Fellow. She is an Associate Professor at McKendree College in Lebanon, Illinois, where she teaches American political and women's history.

Kit Nelson, visiting assistant professor of Anthropology/Archaeology at Tulane University, notified us that her essay on “Lead, Paint, and Pots: Rio Grande Intercommunity Dynamics from a Glaze Ware Perspective,” will be published in an edited volume called *The Social Life of Pots*, which will be published by the University of Arizona Press. Dr. Nelson used a Clements Center travel research grant to do the research for this essay while she was in the doctoral program at SMU.

Ph. D. history candidate **Amy Meschke** won the \$1,000 dissertation award from the Western Association of Women Historians' Founders' Dissertation Fellowship. Meschke was also invited to speak at the first annual Mexican American History Workshop on gender and sexuality to be held at the University of Houston on May 2-4, 2003. Her work focuses on women's wills in the Spanish and Mexican borderlands from 1750-1846. Meschke shows how wills provide windows into everyday lives with information about their families, belongings, religious devotions, and economic activities.



Intriguing Work by Clements-DeGolyer Visiting Scholars

Through a special collaboration between the Clements Center and the DeGolyer Library, visiting scholars receive research travel grants to work in the DeGolyer's special collections. Recent visitors include **Dr. Ron Law**, history professor from San Jacinto College South, Houston, TX, who was researching the life of Congressman Hatton W. Sumners, and **Dr. Sheri Shuck**, assistant professor of history, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, whose work is on the Alabama and Coushatta tribes of Texas. Mexico City historian, **Dr. Yolia Tortolero Cervantes**, arrived in March to catalogue the rich Mexico-related holdings of the DeGolyer Library on behalf of the Archivo Nacional de la Nación. Professor **Mark Dyreson**, Department of Kinesiology and History, Pennsylvania State University, acknowledged the Center's help in an article for the *Journal of Sports History* (Summer 2001) on “American Ideas about Race and Olympic Races from the 1890s to the 1950s: Shattering Myths or Reinforcing Scientific Racism?” Dyreson looks at the way that Jesse Owens' victories in the 1936 Olympics reinforced racism as well as challenged it. **Dr. Patrick Cox**, who is at the University of Texas at Austin, came to the DeGolyer this spring to continue his research on Texas newspapers and their publishers. His new book, *The People's Senator: Ralph W. Yarborough*, continues to receive glowing reviews.

[Grant Deadlines for 2002-2003 are September 16 & March 17. Please see our web site for details!]



Application Deadlines

September 16, 2002 and March 17, 2003: CLEMENTS-DEGOLYER RESEARCH GRANTS: These \$500-a-week research travel grants are for applicants who live outside the greater Dallas-Fort Worth area in order to encourage a broader and more intensive use of the special collections at DeGolyer Library.

January 13, 2003: THE BILL AND RITA CLEMENTS RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR THE STUDY OF SOUTHWESTERN AMERICA: These nine-month residential fellowships provide time for senior or junior scholars in any field in the humanities or social sciences to bring book-length manuscripts to completion. Individuals doing research on southwestern America are invited to apply. The stipend includes \$37,000, health benefits, a \$2,000 allowance for research and travel, and a publication subvention.

January 21, 2003: THE WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS PRIZE FOR THE BEST NON-FICTION BOOK ON SOUTHWESTERN AMERICA: The \$2,500 prize promotes and recognizes fine writing and original research on the American Southwest. The competition is open to any non-fiction book, including biography, on any aspect of Southwestern life, past or present, with a 2002 copyright.

February 1, 2003: PH.D. APPLICATIONS DUE FOR SMU'S INNOVATIVE PROGRAM IN U.S. HISTORY WITH A SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST. For more information, contact the William P. Clements Department of History: www.smu.edu/history or call (214) 768-2984.

For more information about the Clements Center, please contact us at (214) 768-1233 or swcenter@mail.smu.edu. Our Web site is www.smu.edu/swcenter.



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~~~ **Fall Brown Bag Lecture Series** ~~~

**in the Texana Room, DeGolyer Library**

The 2002-2003 Clements Center's Brown Bag Lecture Series continues the friendly tradition of meeting monthly during the academic year for lunchtime lectures on a wide range of stimulating topics. We extend an open invitation to faculty, students, and staff as well as to the general public.

**Wednesday, September 18, 12:00-1:00 p.m.**

**"Hidden Treasures of the DeGolyer Library: Looking Back & Looking Ahead"**

**Russell Martin, Director of the DeGolyer Library**

Russell Martin celebrates his first year as director of the DeGolyer Library with an illustrated view of the state of the collection. He will give an assessment of what the collection is now and share his vision for the future. He will show slides of recent acquisitions and report on the rich resources available for student projects. If you ever have wondered why researchers from Europe, Mexico, and across the U.S. come to work in the DeGolyer, this presentation will answer your questions... and may surprise you!

**Wednesday, October 16, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.**

**"Francisco Clavijero (1731-1787) and the Founding of the Literary West"**

**John F. Crossen, Indiana University**

**Clements-DeGolyer Research Grant Recipient**

In the earliest literary imaginings of the American West, Anglo-American historians and proponents of "manifest destiny" turned to Spanish chroniclers to map their dreams of exploration and designs for nationalist expansion. One authority favored by many was the Mexican Jesuit savant Francisco Clavijero (1731-87). Respected by Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Von Humboldt, William Prescott, and other 18th and 19th century authors, Clavijero's writings on Mexico and the American Southwest helped to shape Anglo-American attitudes about the west and to found a literature of nationalistic fascination with the frontier. As late as the mid-20th century, even novelist John Steinbeck relied on Clavijero to imagine the coast of Baja California. The Mexican was both mentor and trusted guide to all these men's first steps into the "Literary West."

**Wednesday, November 13, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.**

**"Mining Coal Like Herding Sheep: Navajo Coal Operators in the Mid-20th Century"**

**Colleen O'Neill, Assistant Professor, California Polytechnic State University**

**Bill and Rita Clements Research Fellow for the Study of Southwestern America**

At first glance coal mining seems to be an antithesis to the work of herding sheep. Yet, by mining coal in the "Navajo Way," Navajos drew from the same principles that guided their work on the range. They organized production in ways that stressed the centrality of family and reciprocal obligations to one's kin. Such values emerged out of the Navajos' relationship to the land and the unpredictable nature of making a living by herding sheep and growing crops in an arid landscape.

Mining their small, independent coal operations, Navajos engaged the capitalist market, yet maintained their autonomy from it. That history is not necessarily a story of decay or decline of Navajo cultural traditions. Rather, it is a tale of dynamic cultural innovation where ideas arising from a pastoral, mixed subsistence lifestyle shaped the development of an industry that was clearly linked to the broader U.S. market economy.



~~~ **More Special Events Ahead!** ~~~

> **Thursday, September 12: “The Worlds of Islam” Series – Part I: “Conflict and Coexistence: Muslims and Christians in Medieval Spain”:** A lecture by Mark D. Meyerson, Associate Professor of Medieval History, University of Toronto. This is a Stanton Sharp Lecture, organized by the Clements Department of History, with assistance from the Clements Center. There is no charge, but please register. Space is limited. Call 214-768-3684. *5:30 p.m. Reception. 6:00 Lecture – McCord Auditorium, 3rd floor Dallas Hall, 3225 University Ave.*

> **Saturday, September 21: “Continental Crossroads: Remapping U.S.-Mexico Borderlands History”**
A path-breaking conference with presentations by ten young borderlands scholars, who are helping to reshape our understanding of the borderlands. There is no charge to attend, but please register. Luncheon costs \$20. Space is limited. Call 214-768-3684. *8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Hughes Trigg Student Center–Forum, 3140 Dyer St.*

> **Saturday, October 5: “The Worlds of Islam” Series – Part II: “Islam in North Texas”**
A unique public forum that will explore what it means to be Muslim and American in North Texas.
There is no charge to attend, but please register. Luncheon costs \$20. Space is limited. Call 214-768-3684. *8:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Hughes Trigg Student Center–Theater, 3140 Dyer St. (Please see our web site for details.)*

> **Thursday, November 7: “The Worlds of Islam” – Part III: Four Years in the Middle East: The Trail of History”:** A lecture by David W. Lesch, Professor of Middle Eastern History, Trinity University. This is a Stanton Sharp Lecture, organized by the Clements Department of History, with support from the Clements Center. There is no charge to attend, but please register. Luncheon costs \$20. Space is limited. Call 214-768-3684. *5:30 p.m. Reception. 6:00 Lecture. (Please call for campus location!)*

> **Friday, November 15: Annual Lecture, Award Presentation, and Reception in Celebration of the William P. Clements Prize for the Best Non-Fiction Book on Southwestern America.** Donald Worster, the recipient of this prestigious award, will present a lecture based on his book, *A River Running West: the Life of John Wesley Powell*. After the lecture, there will be a reception and a tour of the **new photo exhibit by Sam Walton**, who is known for his vibrant color panoramic photos. Walton’s exhibit will include images shot on a re-photography project of Grand Canyon scenes that one of Powell’s photographers, John K. Hillers, shot in the 1870s. The public is invited to view Walton’s photographs in the DeGolyer Library’s reading room for three weeks before the event. There is no charge to attend, but please register by calling: 214-768-3684. For DeGolyer hours, call (214) 768-3231. *6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Texana Room, DeGolyer Library*

LOOKING AHEAD:

> **Spring 2004: “Engendering Regions? Chicana/Latina Comparative Histories”**

One of the major contributions of Chicana studies has been the reconceptualization of the idea of the border as a place that merged the two worlds of Mexican-American women, intellectually and culturally. While geography was imprinted on the minds of Chicanas, they imprinted themselves on the geography. The goal of our conference, the first Chicana history symposium in over twenty years, is to push the geographical analogies further—to reconsider regions, subregions, and localities across interstate, international, and conceptual boundaries. How have Chicanas “engendered” regions? As a collection of essays, a leading academic publisher through arrangements made by the Clements Center will publish participants’ papers. Organizers of the symposium and editors of the volume are SMU Professor John Chávez and Professor Vicki Ruiz of the University of California, Irvine.