Although the dateline will indicate that this is the spring 2012 issue of our newsletter, I write to you on the coldest day I’ve yet spent in Dallas. Frost on the windows of Dallas Hall and holiday pops on the radio have filled me with festive cheer, and led me to reflect on one of the Clements Center’s greatest attributes: the friendships and support we enjoy both here at SMU and beyond. I thought I’d structure this update accordingly.

In the few months since I arrived on campus, I’ve been struck by the tremendous good will shown to the Center. For instance, in October renowned photographer and longtime Clements Center Board member Laura Wilson hosted a lovely reception at her home welcoming my family and me to the university. Conversations among many of the guests that evening cohered around a central theme, captured nicely by Bill Tsutsui, Dean of Dedman College, when he described the Center as “a true jewel” in the SMU crown. Such accolades pay tribute to the vision of founding director David Weber and benefactor Gov. William P. Clements, as well as the dedication of the center’s indefatigable staff.

Of course the Center counts many supporters outside the Metroplex as well, underscored by a joint “friend-raising” event held in November at SMU to celebrate five years of collaboration with the School for Advanced Research in Santa Fe. Proposed by SAR President James Brooks and graciously underwritten by SAR board member Ann Morton, the reception and public presentations honored the rich history of association between the two institutes, which began in 2006 when SAR Press published Clements Fellow Sylvia Rodriguez’s book *Acequia: Water Sharing, Sanctity, and Place*, and that continues with SAR’s joint sponsorship of next year’s annual symposium on “Uniting the Histories of Slavery in the Americas,” convened by James Brooks and SMU’s own Bonnie Martin.

Much as we treasure these established relationships, of course we welcome the chance to cultivate new friends, too, as we have done with the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado at Boulder, which hosted the September meeting of our conference on “Sunbelt Prisons” and whose director, Patty Limerick, created a most stimulating environment for our workshop. Moreover, one of the symposium participants – Kelly Lytle Hernández – visited Dallas later in the fall to collect the William P. Clements Prize for the Best Book on Southwestern America, awarded for her work on *MIGRA! A History of the U.S. Border Patrol*.

We’re also delighted to welcome two new people to the Clements Center in 2012. First to arrive is Sascha Scott, assistant professor of art history at Syracuse University, who will spend the spring term at SMU completing her book manuscript “Painting the Pueblo: Art and the Politics of Preservation, 1915-1930.” And then next fall historian Neil Foley comes to SMU – on a permanent basis – as the new Robert H. and Nancy Dedman Professor of History, assuming the chair previously held by David Weber. We are excited about the role Neil will play in the intellectual life of the Center as well as the department’s graduate program.

As I reflect – with deep gratitude – on the adventures of the past semester, I want to offer a special thanks to you for your interest in and support of the Center. I hope we’ll cross paths sometime in the coming year.

~~~ Andrew R. Graybill, Director and Associate Professor of History
THREE CENTERS OF THE SOUTHWEST SHARE THEIR STORIES, CELEBRATE THEIR COLLABORATIONS

On November 10 the Clements Center hosted a celebration of a five-year scholarly partnership with the School for Advanced Research in Santa Fe and our long-time relationship with Mike Adler and the SMU-in-Taos campus. Clements Center director Andrew Graybill and SAR president James F. Brooks introduced the evening’s speakers and their work. Sylvia Rodriguez, a 2003-04 Clements Center fellow, spoke on acequias, the “oldest public works system in North America,” which she has documented in her book Acequia: Water-Sharing, Sanctity and Place in Hispanic New Mexico. 2004-05 Clements Center fellow, Brian Frehner, spoke on the volume sponsored in part by SAR, Indians and Energy: Exploitation and Opportunity in the American Southwest. He discussed how history can influence policy. SMU history professor Sherry Smith, co-editor of the book, explained how the relationship between the Center’s founder David Weber and SAR’s James Brooks led to this partnership. Teri Greeves (Kiowa), who received an SAR art fellowship, shared the moving story of her development as a fiber and bead artist based on her family history. Mike Adler, the director of SMU-in-Taos, described the scope of work being done at the campus as well as issues of antiquities and looting, a subject also addressed by SMU professor Susan Bruning. This is the subject of another SMU/SAR workshop and book project. SMU research professor Bonnie Martin concluded the evening with an overview of networks of trading and slavery that connected the Southwest with Cuba, Spain and Africa as well as into the Pacific, the subject of next year’s shared symposium. Clearly the connections between SAR, SMU-in-Taos, and the Clements Center brim with imagination and hard work!

THE 2010 WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS PRIZE FOR THE BEST NON-FICTION BOOK ON SOUTHWESTERN AMERICA

At an award ceremony and lecture last November, Andrew Graybill presented Kelly Lytle Hernández with the 2010 William P. Clements Prize for the Best Non-Fiction Book on Southwestern America for MIGRA! A History of the U.S. Border Patrol (University of California Press).

Her book tells the story of the United States Border Patrol from its beginnings in 1924 as a small peripheral outfit to its emergence as a large professional police force. Focusing on the daily challenges of policing the borderlands and bringing to light unexpected partners and forgotten dynamics, MIGRA! reveals how the U.S. Border Patrol translated the mandate for comprehensive migration control into a project of policing Mexicans in the U.S.-Mexico borderlands.

The judges also chose two finalists to publicly recognize the quality of their work:

NEIL FOLEY, Quest for Equality: The Failed Promise of Black-Brown Solidarity (Harvard University Press, 2010).

MONICA PERALES, Smeltertown: Making and Remembering a Southwest Border Community (University of North Carolina Press, 2010).

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE 2011 WEBER-CLEMENTS BOOK PRIZE

Beginning in 2011, the Western History Association (WHA) Council and the Clements Center will jointly award a newly named book prize to be administered by the WHA. The David J. Weber-Clements Prize for the Best Non-Fiction Book on Southwestern America will be presented for the first time at the 2012 WHA conference to be held in Denver, Colorado. The competition is open to any non-fiction book, including biography, on any aspect of Southwestern life, past or present, with a 2011 copyright. The purpose of the prize is to promote fine writing and original research on the American Southwest. The author will receive $2,500 and an invitation to give the annual Weber-Clements Prize Lecture at Southern Methodist University in spring 2013. The new name honors founding director David Weber and former Texas Governor Bill Clements who together created our center.

Application deadline: July 1, 2012. For more information on submitting publications, please see http://www.westernhistoryassociation.org/awards/.
Some thoughts on why I chose to come to Southern Methodist University:

When I reflect on the years I’ve been a professor at the University of Texas at Austin, teaching, researching and writing about the American Southwest and the U.S.-Mexico borderlands, I recall the excitement I felt when David Weber, with the generous support of SMU and Gov. Bill Clements, founded the Clements Center for Southwest Studies in 1996. At the time UT had more scholars engaged in Southwest/borderland studies, but we did not have a center to serve as the intellectual locus of interested faculty, staff, and students, to say nothing of the annual cohort of the Clements Center’s postdoctoral fellows, whose cutting-edge scholarship has resulted in numerous award-winning books and made residency at the Center almost a “rite of passage” for many of the nation’s leading scholars of the Southwest today.

The record of the Center’s scholarly contribution to Southwestern studies through numerous symposia, conferences, exhibits and publications is, in my opinion, unmatched by any center or institute in the country. Being able to teach, research, and write at an institution committed to the importance of the region in which it resides was an important factor in my decision to join SMU’s faculty as a member of the Clements Department of History.

Shortly after the Center was founded, David invited me to give a lecture at the DeGolyer Library, where I experienced firsthand the excitement of SMU graduate and undergraduate students, faculty and staff, including that year’s cohort of postdoctoral fellows. In subsequent years David twice invited me to attend workshops on book manuscripts of the Center’s visiting postdoctoral fellows. Looking back, it does not seem odd or surprising that I would call SMU my new home. In fact, I feel honored to be coming to SMU as the Robert H. and Nancy Dedman Chair in History, the same chair held by David, whose reputation in the field continues to be the inspiration for carrying forward his vision of scholarly excellence. I hope to honor David by making him proud of the efforts of all of us to continue with the work he began in southwestern studies over three decades ago at SMU.

I am also looking forward to working with the graduate students in history and other disciplines who have found SMU and the Clements Center a place where we can share our scholarly interests, debate the issues that have shaped and continue to shape the American Southwest, and provide constructive feedback on our respective projects. I will be joining a close-knit community of students, staff, faculty, donors, and administrators who have a stake in making SMU the preeminent institution for southwestern studies, and our ability to attract (and fund) doctoral students is a key component of enhancing SMU and the Center’s national reputation for scholarly excellence.

While I am saddened to leave friends and colleagues in Austin, I have no doubt that the Clements Department of History will be a welcoming home for me at SMU and one in which I hope to make many lasting friendships. Finally, I am also pleased to be affiliated with the Dedman College of Arts and Sciences where Dean Bill Tsutsui is committed to humanities studies as central to the educational mission of SMU. SMU, and the Dedman College of Arts and Sciences, has much to offer—to Dallas, to Texas, the Southwest, and the nation. I’m joining a University poised to make a difference.

~~~Neil Foley, incoming Dedman Chair of History, Southern Methodist University

On a personal note:

Neil Foley’s arrival at SMU marks a warm reconnection with a good friend and colleague. Neil and I have known each other since meeting at the University of Michigan more than a few years ago. Both products of UM’s American Culture Program, we developed interdisciplinary skills and interethnic interests that have influenced our work to the present. As a visiting professor there, I had the pleasure of introducing Neil to Chicano history. Over the following years we exchanged frequent family visits, intellectual conversations, and academic projects, even co-authoring a booklet, Teaching Mexican American History (AHA, 2002). While sharing an interest in Mexican-American and borderlands history, we have also placed that study in interethnic, transnational, and global frameworks. Neil’s arrival promises further collaborative efforts along these lines, moving the Clements Center and History Department toward a more multi-dimensional future. Moreover, I’m deeply pleased that Neil will claim the Dedman Chair held for so long by another dear friend, the late David Weber. I couldn’t extend a more heartfelt welcome.

~~~John R. Chávez, Professor of History and Director of Graduate Studies, Southern Methodist University
NEWS FROM CLEMENTS CENTER FELLOWS, 1996 TO PRESENT

The reception at Laura Wilson’s brought together one of the first Clements Center fellows, Gregg Cantrell (1996-97) with current Summeree Fellow in Texas History, Joseph Abel, director Andrew Graybill, and Stephanie Cole, associate professor of history at UT Arlington, and co-convener of the Dallas Area Social History group that meets monthly at SMU.

Current Summeree Fellow Joseph Abel (2011-2012) presented a paper, “The President’s Committee on Government Contracts and the Failed Integration of the Fort Worth Aircraft Industry,” at the conference “Integrating the Workplace: A Retrospective on the 50th Anniversary of ‘Plans for Progress’” in Kennesaw, Georgia. His article, “African Americans, Labor Unions, and the Struggle for Fair Employment in the Aircraft Manufacturing Industry of Texas, 1941-1945,” was published in the Journal of Southern History (August 2011). Joseph is also pleased to announce that the University of Georgia Press will be publishing his book project which he has furthered during his fellowship year, “Sunbelt Civil Rights: Race, Labor, and Fair Employment in the Aircraft Manufacturing Industry of Texas, 1940-1980.” Two outside scholars, Jefferson Cowie at Cornell University and Eric Arnesen at George Washington University, will participate in a workshop this January to evaluate his manuscript. To learn more about Joseph’s research, please come to his brown bag lecture on February 29. See page 14 for more information.

NORWOOD ANDREWS (2009-2010) reports that he and former Clements Center fellow Robert Chase (2008-2009) conducted a successful workshop at the Center of the American West, University of Colorado at Boulder, in which participants reviewed each other’s papers and prepared for this spring’s symposium, “Sunbelt Prisons: A New Frontier of Resistance, State Power, and Racial Oppression.” See page 16 for more information.

DANIEL ARREOLA (2010-2011), professor of cultural geography at Arizona State University, is pleased to announce that his book manuscript, Picturing the Place, Placing the Picture: Rio Bravo Mexican Border Towns, 1900s-1950s, is under contract with the University of Texas Press.

JULIA SCHIAVONE CAMACHO (2007-2008), assistant professor of history at the University of Texas at El Paso, writes that her book, Chinese Mexicans: Transpacific Migration and the Search for a Homeland, 1910-1960, is scheduled to be released from the University of North Carolina Press this May.

DEBORAH COHEN (2003-2004), associate professor of history, University of Missouri, St. Louis, announces that she has been appointed the director of graduate studies in her department.

BRIAN FREHNER (2004-2005), associate professor of history, Oklahoma State University, along with former fellow Sylvia RODRÍGUEZ (2003-2004) took part this fall in the “Southwestern Research Education Triangle,” which celebrated the achievements of the Clements Center, the School for Advanced Research in Santa Fe, and SMU-in Taos. See page 2 for more information.

PEKKA HÄMÄLÄINEN (2001-2002), Rhodes Professor of History and Fellow of St. Catherine’s College, Oxford University, UK, is pleased to announce that he was elected to the American Antiquarian Society. In addition, his article, “The Politics of Grass: European Expansion, Ecological Change, and Indigenous Power in the Southwest Borderlands,” which appeared in the William and Mary Quarterly 67 (April 2010) received the following prizes: the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies’ James L. Clifford Prize; the Bolton-Cutter Award from the Western History Association; and the Percy G. Adams Prize from the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Pekka also writes that the volume which he co-edited with Benjamin H. Johnson, Major Problems in the History of North American Borderlands, is now out from Houghton Mifflin. Pekka’s book, The Comanche Empire, was translated into Spanish by Ricardo García and published in Madrid by Peninsula Press in 2011. In addition, Pekka co-wrote with Peter Onuf a short, reflective piece on David Weber’s influence on their lives and careers titled, “In Memory of David Weber,” found in the fall 2011 issue of Southern California Quarterly.

The Clements Center said good-bye to fall semester fellow SUSAN LEE JOHNSON (2011), professor of history at the University of Wisconsin, at a gathering in December with faculty and fellows from the history department at SMU. While in residence, two outside scholars, ANNE HYDE, professor of history at Colorado College, and BERYL SATTER, professor
of history at Rutgers University, Newark, participated in a workshop to evaluate Susan’s manuscript, “A Traffic in Men: The Old Maid, the Housewife, and their Great Westerner.”

The Clements Center also said farewell to former fellow SAMI LAKOMÄKI (2010-2011), who returned to his native Finland to begin a position as a university lecturer in cultural anthropology at the University of Oulu in January. He is pleased to announce that the book manuscript which he furthered as a Clements Center fellow, “Singing the King’s Song: Constructing and Resisting Power in the Shawnee Nation, 1600-1860,” is under contract with Yale University Press. Sami spent the academic year 2010-2011 as a Clements Fellow, and then extended his fellowship into the summer and fall thanks to funding received from the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), the scholar division of the Institute of International Education (IIE).

MATTHEW LIEBMANN (2010-2011), assistant professor of anthropology at Harvard University, is a member of a research team (including Chris Roos of SMU’s anthropology department) that received a $1.5 million grant to study human interactions with fire in the past. By studying how people, climate and fires interacted in one place over long time scales, he and his colleagues will shed light on the people-fire-climate system.

DAVID NARRETT (2008-2009), associate professor of history at the University of Texas at Arlington, reports that his article “Geopolitics and Intrigue: James Wilkinson, the Spanish Borderlands, and Mexican Independence,” will appear in the Jan. 2012 issue of The William and Mary Quarterly.

COLLEEN O’NEILL (2002-2003), associate professor of history at Utah State University, writes that an article she co-wrote with Alexandra Harmon and Paul Rosier, “Interwoven Economic Histories: American Indians in a Capitalist America,” was published in the Journal of American History. It explains why historians outside the American Indian specialty should integrate Indian economic affairs into surveys and analyses of U.S. history. Histories of American capitalism are incomplete and current Indian entrepreneurship makes little sense, the authors argue, unless historians acknowledge U.S. incorporation of Indian resources and Indians’ diverse adaptations as workers and entrepreneurs.

MARTIN PADGETT (2000-2001), lecturer in English and creative writing at the University of Wales-Aberystwyth, UK, has been awarded a Leverhulme Research Fellowship for this academic year to develop a critical study of the life and career of the renowned American photographer Paul Strand. Strand extensively photographed the Southwest and Mexico during the 1920s and 1930s.

MONICA PERALES (2006-2007), associate professor of history at the University of Houston, is pleased to announce that her book, Smelterrorntown: Making and Remembering a Southwest Border Community (University of North Carolina Press, 2010) received the Kenneth Jackson Award for Best Book in North American Urban History from the Urban History Association. The formal presentation will be made at the biennial meeting of the Urban History Association to be held in New York City in October 2012.

CYNTHIA RADDING (2006-2007), Gussenhoven Distinguished Professor of Latin American Studies, University of North Carolina, returned to full-time duties as director of graduate studies after a research leave during 2010-2011, made possible by the Donnelley Family Fellowship at the National Humanities Center. Her article entitled, “The Children of Mayahuel: Agaves, Human Cultures, and Desert Landscapes in Northern Mexico,” was published in the January 2012 issue of Environmental History.


MARC RODRÍGUEZ (2003-2004), assistant professor of history and assistant professor of law, University of Notre Dame, celebrated the publication of The War
SYLVIA RODRÍGUEZ (2003-2004) writes that since retiring from the University of New Mexico in 2010 she has been engaged in two collaborative research projects focused on acequia or community irrigation systems. The first is community-based research with the New Mexico Acequia Association, to address what they call the “mayordomo crisis,” involving knowledge loss, attrition, and inadequate replacement of mayordomos (or ditch bosses). The second is an NSF-funded multidisciplinary project based at New Mexico State University that investigates how acequias moderate natural and cultural systems. Her essay, “What Tunnels Under Taos Plaza?” was published in Plazas of New Mexico, edited by Chris Wilson and Stefanos Polyzoïdes (Trinity University Press, 2011); and her essay, “Over Behind Mabel’s on Indian Land: Utopia and Thirdspace in Taos,” will be published in the Journal of the Southwest this year.

The Clements Center welcomes SASCHA SCOTT (spring 2012), assistant professor of American art history at Syracuse University, who joins us for a one-semester fellowship this spring. She will be spending the semester revising her manuscript “Painting the Pueblo: Art and the Politics of Preservation, 1915-1930” for publication. Sascha published an article in the 2011 winter issue of American Art entitled, “Unwrapping Ernest L. Blumenschein’s The Gift.” Throughout the year she delivered papers on Ernest L. Blumenschein (Association of Art Historians Annual Conference, Coventry, UK) and Awa Tsireh (School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe; Southwest Art History Conference, Taos). Last summer she received support from the School for Advanced Research and from the Huntington Library in the fall. To learn more about Sascha’s research, please come to her brown bag lecture on April 11. See page 15 for more information.

JAMES SNEAD (1998-1999), professor of anthropology at California State University at Northridge, is pleased to announce the publication of the volume he co-edited with Mark W. Allen, Burnt Corn Pueblo: Conflict and Conflagration in the Galisteo Basin, A.D. 1250-1325 (University of Arizona Press, 2010). This volume covers the region’s history, including the Burnt Corn Pueblo, during the Coalition Period (AD 1200–1300) and addresses the stress that development has placed on the future of research in the area.

SASCHA SCOTT (spring 2012), assistant professor of American art history at the University of New Mexico, along with former fellow Pekka Hämäläinen, published an essay, “Margins to Mainstream: The Brave New World of Borderlands History,” in a special issue on borderlands in the Journal of American History, (September 2011).

ELIZABETH HAYES TURNER (Spring 2011), professor of history at the University of North Texas, presented a paper last fall on the results of the 1968 Poor People’s Campaign to the Southern Studies Forum at the University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain. In October, she gave the keynote address on women in the 1968 Poor People’s Campaign to the Southern Association for Women Historians at their annual meeting in Baltimore. She is currently co-editing Texas Women/ American Women: Their Lives and Times with Stephanie Cole (University of Texas at Arlington) and Rebecca Sharpless (Texas Christian University). The anthology is under contract with the University of Georgia Press.

Last fall the University of Arizona Press published MARTINA WILL DE CHAPARRO’s (2001-2002) volume which she co-edited with Miruna Achim, Death and Dying in Colonial Spanish America. The volume explores the resulting intersections of cultures through recent scholarship related to death and dying in colonial Spanish America between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries.

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Current David J. Weber Research Fellow ANDREW J. TORGET is completing an NEH-sponsored digital project, “Mapping Texts: Visualizing Historical Newspapers,” in collaboration with Stanford University. He also published a digital methodology paper in the proceedings of the Association for Computational Linguistics, and made multiple presentations on the digital humanities at this year’s American Historical Association meeting.

SAMUEL TRUETT (1997-1998), associate professor of history at the University of New Mexico, received the Hal Rothman Prize for the best book in western environmental history from the Western History Association. The book is also now out in paperback.


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MARSHA WEISIGER (2000-2001), the Rocky and Julie Dixon Chair in U.S. Western History at the University of Oregon, writes that her book Dreaming of Sheep in Navajo Country (University of Washington Press, 2009), received the Hal Rothman Prize for best book in western environmental history from the Western History Association. The book is also now out in paperback.

and nineteenth century Mexico. For more information, please call 214-768-3483.

Colonial Mexico expert DR. WILLIAM B. TAYLOR, Muriel McKevitt Sonne Professor Emeritus, University of California, Berkeley, and former SMU history professor, will speak on Thursday, March 22nd. He will explain why nothing stood for Christianity in colonial Mexico like the cross, which was the universal liturgical symbol and Christian logo, but also show how in the sixteenth century crosses became something more. Join Dr. Taylor as he discusses the unusual presence of crosses in the landscape, the prominence of particular crosses as objects of devotion, and their importance to a sense of place. The evening begins with a 6:30 reception, followed by a 7:00 lecture in the new Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Hall, 5901 Bishop Blvd. (for directions, please see http://smu.edu/maps/). Complementing Taylor’s lecture, and running from December 7, 2011–May 7, 2012, Bridwell Library (6005 Bishop Blvd.) invites guests to an exhibit on “FAITH AND DEVOTION IN MEXICO,” which features images, novenas, sacred poetry, and a variety of other sources documenting devotional beliefs and practices in eighteenth and nineteenth century Mexico. For more information, please call 214-768-3483.

Current PhD student CARLA MENDIOLA presented a paper at the biennial ACSUS (Association for Canadian Studies in the United States) conference in Ottawa in November: “North American Borderland Métissage: Maine-Canada Intermarriage and Language Practices, 1880-1930.” She was invited to submit an article to the special borderland edition of the Maine History Journal that will be published next year and was accepted to present the same paper at the Université Laval history graduate student ARTEFACT colloquium in February.

Current PhD student AARON SÁNCHEZ received the 2011 Research Grant of the Hispanic History of Texas Project from the Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project at the University of Houston. It was only one of two accepted. He presented a paper, “‘Mendigos de Nacionalidad:’ Mexican-Americanism and Ideologies of Belonging in a New Era of Citizenship, Texas 1910-1967,” at the University of Houston’s Alonso S. Perales Conference in January. The papers delivered at the conference will be collected into an edited volume called In Defense of My People: Alonso S. Perales and the Development of Mexican American Public Intellectuals edited by Michael A. Olivas.

JEFFREY SCHULZE (2008), senior lecturer of history at the University of Texas at Dallas, reports that his article “The Chamizal Blues: El Paso, the Wayward River, and the Peoples in Between,” is slated to appear in a 2012 issue of the Western Historical Quarterly.

The special borderland edition of the Maine History Journal is now soliciting papers for the 2014 volume. The call for papers is available from the ACSUS website at http://www.acsus.net. More information is available from Carla Mendiola at cmendiola@principal.edu.

Each year the University of Texas at Dallas and the Center for Mexican American Studies, University of Texas, enter into an agreement with the Texas Gulf Historical Record to publish multidisciplinary articles focused on the history and culture of East Texas and the Texas Gulf Coast. Please contact Jimmy at jimmy.bryan@lamar.edu if you are interested in submitting!
The years 2011 to 2015 mark the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War, and 150 years later, the Civil War continues to fascinate the public. Civil War statistics are staggering, with more than 630,000 soldiers killed and almost 500,000 wounded out of a population of 31 million. Americans experienced a collective loss, with few families escaping the death of a close relative or friend. As people today look to the past to find an explanation for the conflict or consider the life of a relative engaged in battle, there are reenactments, seminars, and thousands of publications on the subject. Estimates for the number of books on Civil War topics range from 60,000 to 100,000, and more are published all the time.

It is difficult to escape from this flood tide, and over the decades, the DeGolyer Library has acquired, by gift and purchase, a wide variety of materials pertaining to the Civil War, including books, pamphlets, periodicals, newspapers, broadsides, manuscripts, and photographs, from Northern and Southern perspectives. While our printed materials are generally easy to find through the online catalog, manuscripts and photographs can be relatively inaccessible to researchers, due to vagaries of cataloging systems and standards (which we are now improving). It seems appropriate, then, to highlight some of these archival sources in the hopes that faculty, students, and other scholars may discover some useful primary sources in our collections.

CIVIL WAR PHOTOGRAPHY
by Anne E. Peterson, Curator of Photography

The DeGolyer Library holds interesting materials related to the Civil War in several Civil War photography accessions. Many images have been scanned and are available online. The Lawrence T. Jones III Texas Photography Collection contains numerous portraits and other images related to Texas during the war and also during Reconstruction into the 1870s.

Among the other Civil War related photograph collections of interest is a series by Andrew J. Russell, who later photographed in the West after the war, was the official photographer for the U.S. Military Railroad. His images show the importance of railroads and the Union Army’s military strength.

One of the most important photographers during the Civil War was Alexander Gardner, who initially worked for Mathew Brady and then opened his own studio in the spring of 1863. Gardner was the first to take pictures of American war dead at Antietam.
He later compiled a group of 100 photographs in a two-volume set, *Gardner’s Photographic Sketch Book of the War, 1866*. Gardner was author and editor of the book, using photographs by ten war-time photographers. The book is arguably the most important American photographically illustrated book and includes some of the most iconic images of the Civil War.

There are also many images of notable generals and officials in the collection of Civil War and military cartes de visite and portraits.
MANUSCRIPTS IN BLUE AND GRAY
by Russell Martin, Director

Of the 2,500 or so manuscript accessions at the DeGolyer, a small but significant number have some bearing on the Civil War, ranging from diaries and letters to muster rolls. What follows is a brief checklist of manuscript collections with promising material, with thumbnail sketches on size, scope, topics addressed, and the accession number.

Brooks, Mattie Ellen. Memoirs, 1926. 45 leaves. Wide-ranging in content. Topics include memories of the Brooks family; President Lincoln’s assassination; the Civil War; travel across Kansas in the 1860s; life in Arcadia and Kansas City, Kansas; family; school; religion; pioneer life. A2002.0029c

Christian, Stephen Chappell. 1831-1864? Family papers, 1841-1974; bulk, 1862-1901. 2 boxes (1 l.f.). Includes Civil War letters from Christian to and from his wife, Hannah, and other family members in East Texas. A2006.0031

Combs, Effie collection on the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Arkansas Division, 1913-1974. 1 box (0.5 l.f.). Programs, brochures, pamphlets, membership rosters of state and local chapters, devoted to this women’s organization and the Lost Cause. A2007.0023c


Fisk, James. 1835-1872. Letters, 1863-1865. 28 items. Letters from the famous speculator and financier, here involved in purchasing cotton in Nashville and shipping it through military lines to Boston. Mss 0004c

Fort St. Philip records, 1862-1864. 2 vols. Primarily concerns the daily activities of the 13th Maine Infantry Regiment and their various engagements from Louisiana to South Texas. Vol. 1 consists of diary entries kept by Nelson Howard, First Sergeant of Company E. Vol. 2 is a muster roll. A2010.0017c

Gilbert, Agur. Letters, 1861. 14 items. Written to his wife in Derby, Conn., from the Pennsylvania oil fields, with notes on heightened tensions with the onset of the Civil War. A1987.1465c

Gilbert, L. Letters, 1861 and 1864. 4 items. To his family in Denmark, Maine, from the Pennsylvania oil fields; family matters and discussion of the Civil War. A1987.1470c

GAR. Dept. of Pennsylvania, Collection, 1865-1915. 1 folder (31 items). Correspondence, rosters, and programs for this veterans’ organization. A2007.0021c


Hill, Sowers, and Anderson families papers, 1836-1974. 7 boxes (4.5 linear feet). Papers document the activities of these inter-related families in Cherokee County, Texas. Includes Robert Anderson’s amnesty oath, signed by his wife Sarah in 1865. A1987.1487

Holloway family. Papers, 1830-1960s. 27 boxes (27 l.f.) A large collection devoted to the Holloway family and allied branches, the Thornton and Hardwicke families, in Illinois, Missouri, and Texas. 19th-c. materials include correspondence between Edmunds Holloway and his wife, Eliza Thornton. Holloway has the distinction of being the first Confederate casualty in Missouri, killed by “friendly fire” in 1861. A1989.1613


Oliphint, Kelley collection of Mosby family letters, 1832-1931. 1 box (0.5 l.f.) The bulk of the collection consists of letters between Elizabeth Mosby in Kemper Springs, Mississippi, and her sons, who served in the Confederate Army. A2009.0018c

Richards, Charles F. Letters, 1853-1865. 12 folders (154 letters). Correspondence documents the courtship and marriage of Charles F. Richards and Lucinda Morse. A schoolteacher in Maine, Charles left for California in 1862 to find more lucrative opportunities; his wife stayed behind in New England. Their letters during the Civil War provide a vivid portrait of daily life, with notes on wartime conditions. A1992.1786c

Selecman, Charles Claude. Correspondence, 1931. 4 items. Letter from George E. Critz, Confederate veteran, regarding Critz’s participation in battles around Mobile, Alabama. Selecman was president of SMU, 1923-1938. A1987.1448c

Stevens, Lucy Pier. Papers, 1863-1867. 5 folders (0.5 l.f.). Of primary interest is Lucy’s diary, kept while she was visiting relatives in Texas (now being edited by Vicki Tongate in SMU’s English Dept.). A1999.2233c

Stiles, Elisabeth. Life and reminiscences of W. F. Cummins, 1922. 204 leaves; typed carbon copy. William Fletcher Cummins (1840-1931) had a long and varied life, as geologist, Methodist minister (he officiated at the funeral of Cynthia Ann Parker), newspaper editor, and real estate speculator, living most of his life from 1859 on in Texas. He appears to have served in the Confederate Army in Arkansas; he was a member of the Ku Klux Klan in 1866-67. A1983.0388c

Texas freedmen’s labor contract, 1865. 1 item. From Marshall, Texas. A1986.1385x

Tilton, Elizabeth. Letters, 1862-1893. 2 folders. Collection primarily consists of letters from Elizabeth’s son,
Cushman Haven, who wrote from Washington, D.C., New York, Hampton Roads, Va., and Camp Parapet, Louisiana, where he died of diphtheria on June 25, 1863. Haven was a second lieutenant in the 162nd New York infantry. A1980.0015c


Wheeler, Nathaniel S. Papers, ca. 1865-1868. 5 folders (30 items). Capt. Wheeler was the commander of Company G of the 125th U.S. Colored Troops (“Buffalo Soldiers”) in Texas and New Mexico. Letters, printed forms, manuscript orders and receipts. A1999.2244c

The DeGolyer Library will display two Civil War exhibits in 2013, held in conjunction with the Clements Center symposium, “The American West and the Civil War Era.” The first in February will feature Robin Stanford’s Civil War collection. Collecting since the 1970s, Stanford has amassed one of the most important collections of Civil War stereographs and other related materials in the United States. The second Civil War exhibition in the fall 2013 will be compiled from DeGolyer collections of photographs, books, manuscripts, and maps.

For scanned images, go to: http://digitalcollections.smu.edu/all/cul/

For further information about DeGolyer Library photograph collections, please contact Anne E. Peterson, Curator of Photographs, 214-768-2661, apeterso@smu.edu

For further information about DeGolyer Library manuscripts, please contact Pamalla Anderson, Head of Public Services, 214-768-0829, andersonp@smu.edu

In September Professor Peter Scott from the Henley Business School at the University of Reading (U.K.) spent a week working on the J.C. Penney archive, as part of a wider project on the development of variety stores in the United States and Britain during the 1920s and 1930s.

“I found the collection to be incredibly rich and informative, and appreciated the expert help of DeGolyer archivist Joan Gosnell. Many of the leading national chain stores of the early twentieth century, including Woolworths, have both disappeared from main street and failed to leave any substantial archival records. By contrast J.C. Penney remains a major name in American retailing and has preserved its heritage in one of the most substantial business archives for any retail organisation. My research will contribute to a series of articles in economic and business history journals (co-authored with my colleague James Walker), and a monograph on variety store retailing and its impact in extending the availability of inexpensive luxuries and everyday necessities, on both sides of the Atlantic.”

The Clements Center offers research grants to applicants who live outside the greater Dallas-Fort Worth area to encourage a broader and more intensive use of the special collections at DeGolyer Library.

The Clements Center-DeGolyer Library Research Travel Grants - promotes use of DeGolyer’s holdings related to Southwestern history, literature and culture.

The Bonham Chapter of the Daughters of the Texas Research Grant in Texas History - advances our understanding of the history of Texas.

The Ruth Morgan Women of the Southwest Research Fellowship - encourages research in the Archives of the Women of the Southwest.

Business History Travel Grants - supports advanced scholars working on business related projects.

Independent scholars, PhD candidates, and postdocs are encouraged to apply. All grants are $700 per week and help to defray costs of travel, lodging, and incidental expenses related to research. For more information about these grants please see our website at http://smu.edu/swcenter/ClemDegGrants.htm.
On October 26, 2010, the SMU Latina/o History Project, which consists of two history graduate students, Ruben Arellano and Aaron Sánchez, SMU alum Nyddia Hannah, and the Coordinator for Multicultural Student Services at SMU, Fernando Salazar, presented the “Latina and Latino History of SMU” to a crowd of over seventy students, faculty, alumni, and staff. The standing room only crowd stayed long after the presentation to ask the presenters questions about SMU Latina/o history and Dallas Mexican-American history. The group published a small pamphlet and distributed it to those in attendance. In this publication, the SMU Latina/o History Project placed SMU Latina/o history within its local, regional, and national contexts. The presentation was the closing celebration of the events for Latina/o Heritage Month at SMU.

The SMU Latina/o History Project had begun their preparations months earlier. Arellano and Hannah spent countless hours working in the DeGolyer Library during the summer trying to uncover the hidden and, at times, lost history of Latinas/os at SMU. By early fall, Sánchez, Arellano, and Hannah wrote the twenty-one page essay that would be distributed later. They discovered that the first Latina student, Anastasia R. Rodriguez, and the first Latino student, A.R. Rodriguez, were present when the university first opened its doors in 1915. The first Latino graduate of SMU was a Brazilian theology student, Oscar Machado da Silva, in 1927. The first Mexican-American students to graduate were Francisco Cruz Aedo, from San Antonio, and María González, from Laredo, in 1931. In addition, the SMU Latina/o History Project also recovered the history of the Chicano movement on campus.

The presentation coincided with many of the university’s centennial celebrations. The timing was intentional; the SMU Latina/o History Project felt strongly that the Latina/o voices at SMU needed to be heard while the university celebrated its long and admirable history. The presentation was not the end of the Project’s plans. The group hopes to publish a book on SMU Latina/o history, host small discussions, and possibly arrange a conference on the topic.

For more information, contact Fernando Salazar at fsalazar@smu.edu or Aaron Sánchez at aarons@smu.edu.

The Clements Center has a terrific line-up of future symposia, starting with next year’s partnership with the School for Advanced Research on “Uniting the Histories of Slavery in the Americas,” co-convened by James Brooks (SAR) and Bonnie Martin (SMU). Participants include Eric Bowne (Arkansas Tech University); Catherine Cameron (University of Colorado); Paul Conrad (Colorado State University-Pueblo); Melissa Farley (independent scholar); Mark Goldberg (University of Houston); Alison Gorsuch (Yale University); Enrique Lamadrid (University of New Mexico); Celia Naylor (Barnard College); Calvin Schermerhorn (Arizona State University); and Nancy Shoemaker (University of Connecticut).

Then in 2013-14 the Center will partner with the Institute for the Study of the American West at the Autry National Center in Los Angeles on “The American West and the Civil War Era.” The symposium will consider the lives, choices, politics, and creations of peoples in the West between the outbreak of the U.S. War with Mexico and the retreat from Reconstruction, with the goal of placing the region on equal footing with the North and the South in the history of the Civil War and its aftermath. Adam Arenson (University of Texas at El Paso) and Andrew Graybill (SMU) will co-edit the resulting anthology.

“Food Across Borders” will be the subject of the 2014-15 symposium, co-sponsored with the new Comparative Border Studies Program at Arizona State University, and organized around the question of how nations depend upon one another for food when climate change and wealth inequality threaten to further divide the world. Conference co-conveners include Matthew Garcia (ASU), Melanie DuPuis (University of California at Santa Cruz), and Don Mitchell (Syracuse University). Keep an eye out for the call for papers (sometime in 2013).

** Each symposium will become a book of essays.
Scholars have long recognized that some of our most revealing sources about life in Texas during the 1820s and 1830s are to be found in the surviving minute books of the ayuntamientos (town councils). Responsible for all aspects of a community’s needs, the ayuntamientos passed ordinances, heard citizen concerns, dealt with state and national authorities, and otherwise served as the voice of local people. The minutes of these meetings, therefore, read like a diary of a community, providing unprecedented access to the history of these momentous decades.

Although the minutes of the ayuntamientos for most departments of Texas—Nacogdoches, San Felipe de Austin, and San Antonio—have long been available to scholars, there were no known records for the community of Goliad. Then, in 1998, Malcolm McLean discovered that the surviving Goliad minute books were in the Archivo General de la Nación in Mexico City. McLean, best known for translating and editing Papers Concerning Robertson’s Colony in Texas, procured a copy and translated the entire collection into English. The result is a landmark publication, Voices from the Goliad Frontier, offering 650 pages of translated original sources on life in Goliad from 1821-1835.

These records provide remarkable new windows into nearly all aspects of life in Mexican Texas, covering matters ranging from the mundane (such as problems with stray dogs and repairing town fences) to the momentous (such as Indian raids, Anglo colonization, and the Texas Revolution). More than anything, these documents shed invaluable light on life and strife within a vibrant Tejano community. Published in 2008 by the Clements Center, Voices from the Goliad Frontier, 1821-1835 makes this remarkable collection available for the first time to scholars. The volume comes with a CD that provides a fully searchable copy of the translations, as well as images of the original manuscripts and appendices of supporting historical documents. Malcolm McLean’s son, John, oversaw the publication of this manuscript on behalf of his father. With a foreword by David J. Weber and original illustrations and maps by Jack Jackson, this is a remarkable collection that cannot be missed by any scholar of the U. S.-Mexican borderlands.

For more information, please see http://smu.edu/swcenter/GoliadFrontier.htm

--Andrew J. Torget (2011-2012), the David J. Weber Research Fellow for the Study of Southwestern America

Green, Thomas Jefferson. Journal of the Texian Expedition Against Mier. Edited by Sam Haynes. 1st. ed. 1845; (Austin: W. Thomas Taylor, 1993). Only a handful of men played more active roles in the affairs of the Republic and none displayed such a talent for provoking controversy than Thomas Jefferson Green, who achieved notoriety as second-in-command of the Mier Expedition.

Gray, William Fairfax. The Diary of William Fairfax Gray, from Virginia to Texas, 1835-1837. Edited by Paul D. Lack. (DeGolyer Library & William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies, 1997). Gray’s diary remains one of the best and most unbiased records of the turmoil of early Texas, providing careful accounts of the first Texas Convention, reactions to the fall of the Alamo, and candid assessments of Texas politics and persons.

Adler, Michael, and Herbert W. Dick, eds. Picuris Pueblo through Time: Eight Centuries of Change at a Northern Rio Grande Pueblo. (William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies, 1999). A result of a collaboration between modern Picuris and a team of archeologists, this volume details the history, social organization, native craft traditions, and architecture of this unique Native American community in northern New Mexico.

Caddock, Jerry R., ed. Zaldívar and the Cattle of Cibola: Vicente de Zaldívar’s Report of His Expedition to the Buffalo Plains in 1598. Bilingual edition, trans. by John H. R. Polt. Foreword by David J. Weber. (William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies, 1999). This volume is the account of Vicente de Zaldívar’s 1598 journey to the plains. Scholars will value the fidelity of the Spanish language account; general readers will be charmed by the story, either in Spanish prose, or in Gaspar Pérez de Vallagrá’s poetic rendering and in John H. R. Polt’s graceful translations.

Imhoff, Brian. The Diary of Juan Domínguez de Mendoza’s Expedition into Texas (1683-1684). A Spanish Language Critical Edition with Facsimile. (William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies, 2002). This is the first critical Spanish language edition of an original expedition diary pertaining to the early history of Texas as it was originally written.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2012
Clements Center Brown Bag Lecture
12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.
Texana Room, DeGolyer Library, SMU
6404 Hyer Lane & McFarlin Blvd.

Wind Energy Comes of Age

ROBERT W. RIGHTER, Research Professor of History, Southern Methodist University

Robert Righter, author of two books on modern wind turbines and their production of electrical energy, *Windfall: Creating Electricity From the Wind* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2011) and *Wind Energy in America: A History* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1996), will discuss renewable energy in this first brown bag of the semester. His primary focus will be on modern turbines, their problems and promise, giving particular attention to Texas, the largest producer of wind energy in the United States.

Righter, an environmental historian, received his Ph.D. in history from the University of California at Santa Barbara and is the author of *The Battle Over Hetch Hetchy: America’s Most Controversial Dam and the Birth of Modern Environmentalism* (Oxford University Press, 2006) which won the Hal Rothman prize for the best book in western environmental history from the Western History Association.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2012
Legacies/Dallas History Conference
8:30 am registration; 9 am to 12:30 pm conference
Texas Hall of State, Dallas Fair Park

Defining the Spirit of Dallas

The purpose of the annual “Legacies” conference is to rescue subjects from obscurity and acknowledge their importance in the development of Dallas. Presenters will focus on individuals, groups, sites, events, and communities important to the history of Dallas. The Clements Center is one of twelve history organizations jointly sponsoring the conference. To receive a registration brochure, contact conference coordinator DR. MICHAEL V. HAZEL at mvhazel@sbcglobal.net.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2012
Clements Center Brown Bag Lecture
12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.
Texana Room, DeGolyer Library, SMU
6404 Hilltop Lane & McFarlin Blvd.

White Unions, Black Workers, and the Struggle for Civil Rights in the Fort Worth Aircraft Industry

JOSEPH ABEL, Summerlee Fellow for the Study of Texas History

In the historiography of southern labor, the years following World War II are typically viewed as a time when African Americans were either courted by short-lived radical unions or abandoned by white labor leaders seeking to solidify their tenuous gains through the negotiation of discriminatory contracts. For black workers employed in the Convair Aircraft Corporation’s Fort Worth plant, however, the path taken by District Lodge 776 of the International Association of Machinists (IAM) suggests that a more moderate path was also possible. Although they balked at promoting any form of social equality that might challenge the IAM’s Anglo membership policies, District 776 officials argued that the strength of recently won collective bargaining agreements and the job security of all workers depended upon fair representation for black and white alike. Time and again union officials at Convair demonstrated a willingness to cooperate with black workers in adjusting shopfloor grievances. Unlike the idealistic civil rights unionism espoused elsewhere in the South, this brand of pragmatic colorblind unionism was necessitated by the economic realities of the aircraft industry’s unstable structural condition and fluctuating demand for labor. By examining the ways in which District 776 and the IAM negotiated the rocky terrain of race relations in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s, this lecture seeks to demonstrate that a third way between the poles of radical interracialism and reactionary segregationism was indeed possible within the postwar southern labor movement.

Abel received his PhD in history from Rice University. As this year’s Summerlee Fellow for the Study of Texas History, he is spending the academic year revising his manuscript “Sunbelt Civil Rights: Race, Labor, and Politics in the Aircraft Manufacturing Industry of Texas, 1940-1980” for publication with the University of Georgia Press.
KATRINA JAGODINSKY, Clements Center Fellow for the Study of Southwestern America
As imperial legal regimes criss-crossed North American borderlands in the second half of the nineteenth century, indigenous women found creative ways to critique the laws that made them economically and sexually vulnerable to the whims of citizen men and their families. Jagodinsky will focus her discussion on the strategies of Native women in the territories of Arizona and Washington who resisted the intimate and material exploitation they faced under settler-colonialism in borderlands regions. Jagodinsky will explore the legal cases and the social contexts from which they emerged to reveal much about the ways in which indigenous women navigated the sexual and racial hierarchies erected under state formation in the U.S.-Canadian and U.S.-Mexican borderlands of Washington and Arizona. A history that spans from American absorption of Oregon Territory in 1845 and the U.S.-Mexican War in 1846 to the American Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 and the Indian Claims Commission hearings of the 1930s, “Legal Codes and Talking Trees” posits Native women as central actors in the imperial courts that administered conquest and settlement in the American West.

Jagodinsky received her Ph.D. in U.S. history and comparative studies at the University of Arizona. She is spending the academic year as a Clements fellow furthering her manuscript, “Legal Codes and Talking Trees: Indigenous Women in Imperial Courts, 1853-1912,” for publication.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2012
Clements Center Annual Symposium
All day symposium
McCord Auditorum, Dallas Hall, SMU
3225 University Blvd.

Sunbelt Prisons: A New Frontier of Resistance, State Power, and Racial Oppression

This interdisciplinary symposium and resulting anthology will build new connections among scholarly fields, including political and social history; state violence, formation, and power; convict leasing and labor studies; historical sociology and criminology; the history of drugs and youth culture; immigration studies; Chicano studies and the history of the borderlands; Native American studies; and Black Power studies. See page 16 for details and registration information.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2012
Clements Center Annual Symposium
12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.
McCord Auditorum, Dallas Hall, SMU
6404 Hyer Lane & McFarlin Blvd.

Legal Codes and Talking Trees: Indigenous Women in Imperial Courts, 1853-1912

KATRINA JAGODINSKY, Clements Center Fellow for the Study of Southwestern America
As imperial legal regimes criss-crossed North American borderlands in the second half of the nineteenth century, indigenous women found creative ways to critique the laws that made them economically and sexually vulnerable to the whims of citizen men and their families. Jagodinsky will focus her discussion on the strategies of Native women in the territories of Arizona and Washington who resisted the intimate and material exploitation they faced under settler-colonialism in borderlands regions. Jagodinsky will explore the legal cases and the social contexts from which they emerged to reveal much about the ways in which indigenous women navigated the sexual and racial hierarchies erected under state formation in the U.S.-Canadian and U.S.-Mexican borderlands of Washington and Arizona. A history that spans from American absorption of Oregon Territory in 1845 and the U.S.-Mexican War in 1846 to the American Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 and the Indian Claims Commission hearings of the 1930s, “Legal Codes and Talking Trees” posits Native women as central actors in the imperial courts that administered conquest and settlement in the American West.

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SASCHA SCOTT, Clements Center Fellow for the Study of Southwestern America

Awa Tsireh’s Paintings and the Art of Subtle Resistance

Focusing on paintings by San Ildefonso Pueblo artist Awa Tsireh (Alfonso Roybal), this talk will explore art making and Native political activism in the 1920s, a period that witnessed a shift in Indian policy from assimilation to preservation. Scott will explore Awa Tsireh’s work framed by two questions: Did the politics of the era change what and how Pueblo artists painted? Are Pueblo strategies of resistance encoded in Pueblo painting? An answer can be found by analyzing the visual language of Awa Tsireh’s paintings, a language bounded by Pueblo epistemology (Pueblo ways of knowing and attitudes towards the production and distribution of knowledge). It is significant that Awa Tsireh experimented with different subjects, formats, and styles at the very moment when Pueblo culture was under attack, helped to develop a market for Pueblo art at Syracuse University. Scott will demonstrate that Awa Tsireh’s paintings countered cultural oppression of assimilationists and thwarted cultural exploitation of anthropologists, cultural modernists and tourists. Pueblo painters working in the 1920s celebrated their culture at a time when it was under attack, helped to develop a market that benefited themselves and their communities, and did so while protecting boundaries of Pueblo knowledge. Pueblo paintings from the 1920s thus reveal the artists’ aesthetic agency, through which they reinforced their peoples’ enduring identities in the face of cultural and political struggles and in the context of radical change.

Scott received her PhD in art history from Rutgers University and is an assistant professor of American art at Syracuse University. She is spending the spring semester at the Clements Center completing her manuscript, “Painting the Pueblo: Art and the Politics of Preservation, 1915-1930 “(under contract with the University of Oklahoma Press) for publication.
SUNBELT PRISONS:
A New Frontier of Resistance, State Power, and Racial Oppression
Saturday March 24, 2012
McCord Auditorium, Dallas Hall, 3225 University, Dallas, TX Southern Methodist University
http://smu.edu/swcenter/SunbeltPrisons.htm

Declaring that today’s racially disproportionate rates of incarceration represent “a New Jim Crow,” legal scholar Michelle Alexander has advanced the argument that “We have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it.” Historians should have something important to say about whether our age is indeed a “New Jim Crow,” and the history of region, geography, and space plays a crucial role in this reconsideration.

The Clements Center takes up Professor Alexander’s charge by considering the historic role of the American Southwest and borderlands in shaping today’s contemporary era of mass incarceration and the construction of what many historians now call the “carceral state.” Much of the nation’s unprecedented prison growth and its centers of immigration, detention, and deportation are rooted in the states of the “Sunbelt,” a region that often makes political claims for limited state power. Yet the “carceral state” that has arisen in the American Southwest is a 20th-century state-building project that rivals that of the New Deal and the Great Society in its scope, cost, and size. By rethinking the ways in which mass incarceration has unfolded in the American Sunbelt, this interdisciplinary symposium and resulting anthology will build new connections among scholarly fields, including political and social history; state violence, formation, and power; convict leasing and labor studies; historical sociology and criminology; the history of drugs and youth culture; immigration studies; Chicano/a studies and the history of the borderlands; Native American studies; and Black Power studies.

Building on the innovative fall 2011 symposium held at the University of Colorado at Boulder’s Center of the American West, the spring 2012 symposium offers a different platform than the academic seminars of years past. This year’s seminar features a public history event and public policy symposium where some of the nation’s leading scholars, politicians, civil rights attorneys, formerly incarcerated activists, journalists, and community organizers in Dallas will collectively discuss the historical roots of mass imprisonment and problems, possibilities, and potential solutions. The day-long event includes a series of four roundtable panels that will include dialogue with the audience. The final panel of the day will create a space for academics, students, and faculty to exchange ideas and experiences with those who have experienced incarceration as well those who have challenged the problem of mass incarceration through the legislature, the courts, and grass-roots activism. The day’s final panel will include Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (invited); Ernest McMillan – civil rights veteran and formerly incarcerated activist; Ray Hill – formerly incarcerated activist and host of “The Prison Radio Program”; Bill Habern – long-time civil rights and criminal defense attorney; and Lisa Graybill – legal director of ACLU, Texas.

Organized by historians and former Clements Center fellows Robert T. Chase and Norwood Andrews, participants include: Heather Thompson, Temple University; Rhonda Williams, Case Western Reserve University; Ethan Blue, University of Western Australia; David Hernandez, University of California at Los Angeles; Kelly Lytle Hernández, University of California at Los Angeles; Pippa Holloway, Middle Tennessee State University; Volkert Janssen, California State University, Fullerton; Catherine Lavender, College of Staten Island, CUNY; Talitha LeFlouria, Florida Atlantic University; Heather McCarty, Ohlone College; Vivien Miller, University of Nottingham; Donna Murch, Rutgers University; Robert Perkinson, University of Hawai, Manoa; and Keramet Ann Reiter, University of California at Berkeley.