

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

S O U T H W E S T S T U D I E S

S O U T H E R N M E T H O D I S T U N I V E R S I T Y

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NEWSLETTER

September 2000

From the (Associate) Director:

Greetings and welcome to a new academic year! I am assuming authorship of this column to alert you to some temporary changes at the Clements Center. After directing operations throughout the Center's first four years of programs, David Weber is taking some well-deserved time off. He will be enjoying a year's leave as the Times Mirror Distinguished Fellow at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, this year, during which he hopes to make substantial progress on his current book. For those of you who have wondered what his research entails, he has provided a brief description of his work, tentatively entitled, "Spaniards and Their Savages in the Age of Enlightenment."

David writes, "Spain's interest in conquering America continued long after the Age of Conquest. Two centuries after the Spaniards' stunning defeats of the Aztecs and the Incas, independent Indians still controlled most of the area that Spain claimed as its New World empire. How did enlightened, eighteenth-century Spaniards, who fully understood Spain's reputation for treating Indians brutally, try to bring remaining independent Indians under their control? How did independent Indians, from Apaches to Araucanians, shape the policies and practices of the enlightened Bourbon officials who governed eighteenth-century Spain? Scholars have answered these questions for particular locales; I propose to take a hemispheric-wide view of the relations between Spaniards and "savages." My larger view reveals the magnitude of the challenges and opportunities that independent Indians

represented for Bourbon Spain, which continued to hold its American empire for two generations after France and England lost theirs."

In David's absence, Professor of History Sherry L. Smith will serve as the Center's director. Many of you met Sherry at various Center functions last year, her first at SMU. Sherry came to us from the University of Texas, El Paso, where she taught for twelve years. She earned her M.A. at Purdue University and her Ph.D. at the University of Washington. She received an NEH Fellowship for College Teachers in 1996-97 and has also held a Fulbright Foundation Senior Lectureship (New Zealand) and an Andrew Mellon Fellowship at the Huntington Library. Her teaching interests include the American West and the American Indians, and her work explores issues regarding constructions of race and ethnicity, and their implications for American thought and identity and for Indian policy. Sherry is the author of three books, the most recent of which is *Reimagining Indians, 1880-1940* forthcoming from Oxford University Press.

Both Sherry and I look forward to seeing you at one or more of the Center's activities for the upcoming year (outlined herein). We've assembled a wide variety of programs and a stellar group of post-doctoral fellows. Your participation in the life of the Center will only enhance what we anticipate will be another great year.

Jane Lenz Elder
Associate Director



 **BOOK NEWS** 

The committee assembled to select the winner of first **Clements Prize for the best non-fiction book on Southwestern America** soon will announce their choice for 1999. The prize carries a \$1,000 award and an invitation to give the **Clements Prize Lecture** at SMU. Look for an announcement about the date for this special lecture and booksigning later this fall.

The collection of essays based on our spring symposium “**The Culture of Tourism and the Tourism of Culture**” is well on its way to production. Final drafts of the participants’ essays, as well as contributions from two additional scholars, have been assembled and are under consideration at a major scholarly press. Many of you have expressed interest in obtaining the book when it comes out, and we will keep you informed about its progress.

Jerry Craddock, Department of Romance Languages at the University of California, Berkeley, has published the second book in the Center’s publishing-on-demand program. *Vicente de Zaldívar’s Report of His Expedition to the Buffalo Plains in 1598*, a bilingual edition edited by Craddock, translated by John H. R. Polt, with a foreword by David J. Weber arrived from the printers at the end of July. See enclosed order form for further information.

The SMU Press announced that in November it will be bring out *Wright Patman : Populism, Liberalism, and the American Dream* by **Nancy Beck Young**, our 1996-97 Clements Research Fellow. The book is a must-read for anyone interested in Texas and/or national politics in the twentieth century, and will be available at a lecture and booksigning sponsored by the Center in November. See attached schedule of events.

The next book in the *Library of Texas* series arrived from the printer in April. It is W. Steinert’s *Nordamerika Vorzueglich Texas*, translated from the German by Gilbert J. Jordan and edited by **Terry G. Jordan-Bychkov**. Four more books in the *Library of Texas* are scheduled to appear, one a year for the next four years, and David Weber is negotiating with scholars for at least two additional volumes. See enclosed order form for further information.

One hundred fifty copies of the Center’s first publishing-on-demand book, *Picuris Pueblo through Time: Eight Centuries of Change at a Northern Rio Grande Pueblo*, edited by SMU Anthropology professor **Mike Adler** sold in the first six months of its distribution. The volume has received warm reviews in newspapers in Colorado and New Mexico, as well as in the professional journals. See enclosed order form for further information.

The SMU Press brought out two books published in cooperation with the Center the first week in March: **Alwyn Barr**’s *Reconstruction to Reform: Texas Politics, 1876-1906*, with a new foreword by SMU History Professor **Hal Williams**, and **Lesley Bird Simpson**’s (editor) *San Sabá Papers*, translated by Paul D. Nathan, with a new foreword by **Robert Weddle**.

For a complete listing of Clements Center publications, see our web site:
<http://www.smu.edu/~swcenter/swbooks.htm>, or phone Jane Elder (214) 768-3684.



~~~ Friends and Fellows ~~~

We are pleased to introduce our three research fellows for 2000-2001 and provide you with a bit of background information on their work. They form a major part of the life of the Clements Center and it is gratifying to welcome scholars of their calibre to our community.

Martin Padget, the 2000-2001 recipient of the Clements Research Fellowship in Southwestern history, received his B.A. in American Studies at the University of Sussex in England, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in English and American Literature at the University of California, San Diego, in 1993. In 1996 the Western History Association awarded Padget the Bolton-Kinnaid Prize for the best article in *Borderlands History*. He currently teaches in the Department of English at the University of Wales.

During his residency, Padget will complete a manuscript entitled “‘Indian Country’: Representing the Southwest, 1830-1937,” an interdisciplinary study of Euro-American writing about the Southwest, which will “examine how writers of frontier narratives, personal diaries, military surveys, travelogues, and ethnological reports, as well as fiction, poetry and autobiography, mapped the region’s natural features and human populations from well before the Mexican War to the 1930s.”

Raúl Ramos, the 2000-2001 recipient of the Summerfield-Roberts Research Fellowship in Texas history, received his B.A. in History and Latin American Studies from Princeton, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in American History from Yale in 1999. He currently teaches in the Department of History at the University of Utah.

During his residency, Ramos will complete a manuscript entitled “From Norteño to Tejano: The Roots of Borderlands Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Political Identity in Bexar, 1811-1861.” It explores the process of identity construction in late colonial and early Mexican Texas, including the influence of external factors such as Native American relations, Mexican politics, and Anglo colonization, focusing particularly on the Tejano residents of San Antonio.

Marsha Weisiger, the 2000-2001 recipient of the Carl B. and Florence E. King Research Fellowship in Southwestern history, received a B.A. in both History and Anthropology from Arizona State University, her M.A. in History from the University of Oklahoma, and her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her first book, *Land of Plenty: Oklahomans in the Cotton Fields of Arizona, 1933-1942* (OU Press, 1995), won the Angie Debo Prize in 1999.

During her residency, Weisiger will complete a manuscript entitled “Diné Bikéyah: Environment, Cultural identity, and Gender in Navajo Country,” which explores the relationship between Navajo pastoralism, cultural identity, and gendered issues of power during the New Deal.” As she describes her project, “Policy-makers with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Soil Conservation Service responded to an overgrazed range and the threat of accelerated erosion by radically reducing the numbers of Navajo livestock and by attempting to revolutionize the ways that Navajos managed their flocks of sheep, within a new market logic. I argue that in their haste to respond to an environmental crisis, the New Dealers unwittingly made matters worse.”



& in conclusion . . .

Those of you who live or work close to campus will know of the challenges that SMU's ongoing construction projects present to us all. While we anticipate that the parking situation will ease with the opening of the new garage at the corner of Airline and Daniels and the one underneath the new Meadows Museum, the rerouting of traffic around campus will continue throughout the academic year. Please be aware of the following changes:

- ◆ Daniels will be closed between Hillcrest and Athens Avenue from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. During non-construction hours, two-way traffic will be allowed on Daniels.
- ◆ Traffic that normally uses Daniels will be rerouted to University Blvd. between Hillcrest and Airline Road, making University Blvd. a two-way street. Parking on University Blvd. near Florence Hall, Perkins Administration Building, Hyer Hall and the Science Information Center has been eliminated.
- ◆ University Blvd. between Airline Extension and Airline Road is now one-way (westbound), while Fondren Drive continues to be one-way (eastbound).

If you have any questions or concerns about driving or parking on campus for Clements Center events, or anyone else's event, please feel free to contact Jane Elder at (214) 768-1233, or e-mail her at jelder@mail.smu.edu.



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