Happy new year!

The Humanities Division begins this winter with a busy calendar of events, including the visits to campus of the candidates for the faculty recruitments that are underway in History, Languages, Linguistics, and Literature. Of particular note are Dr. Roderick Ferguson’s visit as the second of the distinguished visitors in the CRES series (January 9), Dr. Jan Boxill’s visit as the Peggy Downes Baskin Ethics Lecturer (January 31), and Prof. Gail Hershatter’s Faculty Research Lecture (February 12).

Congratulations to Prof. Sandra Chung in Linguistics, selected this year as a Fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Congratulations also to UCSC’s Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl team, which has once again qualified for the national competition by finishing (in a tie for) first place in the California regionals, which were hosted by our Philosophy department in December.

On November 30, I convened the inaugural meeting of the Humanities Dean’s Advisory Council. The role of the Dean’s Advisory Council is to provide insight, advocacy
and support for the purpose, delivery and impact of a Humanities based, Liberal Arts education and degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz. I am very grateful to Rob Fernandez, Glenn Lindsey, and Linda Peterson for their support in agreeing to serve as the charter members.

Amid the news of accomplishments and celebrations, we also pause in sadness in memory of Don Rothman, Senior Lecturer Emeritus in Writing, who died in November. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 26.

William A. Ladusaw
Dean of Humanities

Philosophy Department to host third annual Peggy Downes Baskin Ethics Lecture

The Peggy Downes Baskin Ethics Lecture is a lively forum for the discussion and exploration of ethics-related challenges in human endeavors. Presented annually by the Philosophy Department, the Ethics Lecture is made possible by the Peggy Downes Baskin Humanities Endowment for Interdisciplinary Ethics, a fund created in honor of Peggy Downes’s longtime interest in ethical issues across the academic spectrum.

“There are so many areas in which ethical problems arise—in journalism, politics, medicine,” Baskin said. “The endowment emphasizes the need to address these issues in a cross-disciplinary context.”

This winter, we welcome our third annual ethics
lecturer, Dr. Jan Boxill, Director of the Parr Center for Ethics, Chair of the Faculty, and a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Dr. Boxill’s talk is titled, “Using sports as a public forum for ethics.” In addition to giving a public lecture and meeting with various student groups and faculty, Dr. Boxill also agreed to serve as Judge and Honorary Chair of the inaugural 2013 California Regional High School Ethics Bowl Competition, to be held on Saturday, February 2.

“Jan will be a great resource on Ethics Team matters, as she is the coach for the UNC team and is also leading the development of a consortium for developing a high school league,” said William Ladusaw, Dean of Humanities.

The High School Ethics Bowl is a collaborative yet competitive event, more nuanced than debate, in which teams are presented with a series of wide-ranging ethical dilemmas and are asked to analyze them; they are then judged on the basis of their analyses. The tournament is also a way for students to gain valuable insight into ethical and philosophical issues.

"Ethics Bowl is both about the use of ethical and analytical thinking in everyday life,” said Rasmus Winther, Assistant Professor of Philosophy at UCSC. “It is also about teaching those tools to students who can then go out in the world and make a positive impact.”

Critical Race and Ethnic Studies hosts Professor Roderick Ferguson

In anticipation of the development of a formal Critical Race and Ethnic Studies (CRES) proposal to the Academic Senate, the Humanities Division is sponsoring a 2012-13 CRES visiting speaker series, which brings scholars from other programs at other universities to UCSC.

Last fall, we hosted Sunaina Maira, Professor of Asian American Studies at UC Davis. Professor Maira presented “More Delicate Than a Flower, Yet Harder Than a Rock: Human Rights in the Shadow of an Empire” to an overflowing crowd. This winter, we welcome Roderick Ferguson, Professor of American Studies at the University
of Minnesota, who will speak on Wednesday, January 9.

Professor Ferguson will present "Comparative Ethnic Studies: Retrieving, Redistributing, and Holding the Institution Under Erasure." This talk looks at the question of comparative ethnic studies through the critique and the rearticulation of comparative projects. It goes on to ask the question of how one might institutionalize and let one's institutional practice and project be shaped by the critique of institutionalization.

Professor Ferguson specializes in African-American Literature; queer theory and queer studies; classical and contemporary social theory; African-American intellectual history; sociology of race and ethnic relations; and black cultural theory. He is the author of Aberrations in Black: Toward a Queer of Color Critique (2004) and The Parvenu Baldwin and the Other Side of Redemption: Modernity, Race, Sexuality, and the Cold War (1999), and has published numerous articles and essays. He was awarded the Modern Language Association's Crompton-Noll Award for "best essay in lesbian, gay, and queer studies in the modern languages" for his article "The Parvenu Baldwin and the Other Side of Redemption."

"The CRES faculty members invited Roderick to speak because we're interested in his important work at the intersection of ethnic and gender studies," said Eric Porter, Professor of American Studies at UCSC. "We also expect to learn a great deal from Roderick because of his recent edited collection, Strange Affinities, which seeks to rethink comparative ethnic studies by making critical studies of gender and sexuality more central to it."

**Student Profile: Navdeep Kaur**

*The Importance of Cultural Education*

On the side of Navdeep Kaur’s left hand, a tattoo reads, “Conquer Your Mind, Conquer The World” in Punjabi.

Although subtle in size, the tattoo, written in Gurmukhi, heavily influences Kaur, and signifies her conscious decision to take charge of her life and her choices.

The fourth-year history major and education minor acts upon her tattoo’s message through her involvement with UCSC’s Sikh Student Association (SSA), a student organization for
Sikh and Punjabi issues, culture, and ideology. Kaur sees SSA as an opportunity to educate herself, Sikhs and non-Sikhs.

“I have an extreme love for my religion and where my gurus come from,” Kaur said. “I have a thirst to learn. Not only am I learning with SSA, but I’m helping people learn. It’s great to see other students become more knowledgeable.”

SSA hosts events such as “Learning from the Oak Creek Wisconsin Tragedy: Sikhs and Pluralism in America,” which took place in November 2012. Students play an influential role in UCSC’s Sikh and Punjabi studies program, a place they can witness their own suggestions unfold. After students expressed a heavy interest, Sikh and Punjabi studies offered Punjabi courses through UCSC at San Jose Gurdwara during summer 2012. Kaur praises the organization’s and the students’ work and she sees them as opportunities to spread the message of Sikhi.

“We use the word ‘tolerance’ too often and too much. This country needs to accept and not just tolerate” Kaur said. “To accept is to welcome: I may not have the same beliefs as you but I acknowledge your presence in my life. To tolerate is to leave you as you are and to not recognize your being. It has a negative connotation that differentiates people. We, as a nation, need to move away from tolerance towards acceptance.”

The Sikh and Punjabi Studies course “Introduction to the Sikhs” initially fostered Kaur’s participation with SSA. UCSC economics professor Nirvikar Singh, who currently holds the Sarbjit Singh Aurora Chair in Sikh and Punjabi Studies, teaches the course. Kaur said she is proud to note the increased ratio of non-Sikh students to Sikh students in the fall 2012, when compared to the course’s inaugural appearance in fall 2011.

Although Kaur graduates in June 2013 and is unsure about her post-graduation plans, she is considering teaching at the high school level. She eventually wants to pursue a Ph.D., but she does not have to wait for a teaching degree to promote a cultural education, as she already promotes it now.

Learn More:

Sikh and Punjabi Studies at UCSC
January 26: “Feminism and Social Justice in Sikhi”
March 29-30, 2013: UCSC Conference in Sikh and Punjabi Studies
Los Angeles Times, November 19, 2012: “Sikh religion joining California universities’ curriculum”

Extraordinary Achievement: Gail Hershatter
Professor of History Gail Hershatter selected to give 47th annual Faculty Research Lecture

Gail Hershatter, History Professor and Department Chair at UC Santa Cruz, is one of few Western women to travel far-flung areas in China. As she made her way through the rural Shannxi province over the course of 10 years, she spoke to 72 elderly women and a few surviving men about their lives before and after the Revolution. Hershatter's groundbreaking work has influenced Chinese historians and the methods in which they conduct research.

The UCSC Academic Senate bestowed their highest honor by selecting Hershatter to give the 47th annual Faculty Research Lecture. Hershatter was chosen for her pioneering field research and oral history among Chinese women, and for her major contributions to the history of women, labor, and sexuality. She was honored at the Founders Day gala dinner in October 2012 and will deliver her lecture on February 12, 2013.

Having climbed to the top of the ladder in academia with her impressive teaching and publishing record, Hershatter holds the title of distinguished professor, said William Ladusaw, Dean of Humanities. He describes her as "one of the most distinguished faculty members on campus and one of the world's most expert scholars on Chinese women's history."

Hershatter's grass-roots approach to recovering oral histories reveals a side of China that has seldom been explored by scholars before. More academics in Asia are starting to record the oral histories of underrepresented people before those histories are lost for good. She listened to the tales of 8-year-old girls who were sold as child brides, and the stories of women who survived famine and became political activists during the Communist Revolution.

"My work is really looking at the connections between 'Big History' and the daily life and local consciousness of these rural women," Hershatter said.

Last year, Hershatter served as president of the Association for Asian Studies. Her recognition in the fields of history and women's studies helps boost UCSC's academic and teaching reputation, Ladusaw said. Hershatter also served as chair of the Executive Committee of the UC Pacific Rim Research program for six years.

Hershatter recently published The Gender of Memory: Rural Women and China’s
Collective Past (University of California Press, 2011), which highlights the poor, rural women who were left out of history books and never had an opportunity to share their life stories before.

**Extraordinary Achievement: Sandra Chung**

*Professor of Linguistics Sandra Chung honored by American Associate for the Advancement of Science*

The American Associate for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) awarded Professor of Linguistics Sandra Chung, with the distinction of AAAS fellow, "for distinguished contributions to teaching and research in linguistics, advancing syntax through insights from under-studied languages, notably Chamorro, and engaging minority communities in linguistic research."

Chung is a leading authority on Austronesian languages, especially Chamorro, a language spoken by 45,000 people in the unincorporated U.S. territory of Guam and in the U.S. commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. In 2008, she was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation for a three-year collaborative project to help preserve the endangered Chamorro language. Since joining UCSC in 1986, she has served as chair of the Linguistics Department, chair of the Philosophy Department, and chair of the Committee on Academic Personnel. In 2011, she was elected as president of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA)--the major professional society in the United States that is dedicated to the scientific study of language.

Much of Chung’s recent research has focused on the interface of syntax and semantics, including a collaborative project with UCSC Professor of Linguistics and Dean of Humanities William A. Ladusaw.

According to Chung's website, problem-solving and linguistic argumentation have always appealed to her. "There's something I find deeply satisfying about discovering new evidence for an analysis or bringing new evidence to bear on a theoretical claim," Chung states. "I'm committed to the idea that lesser-studied languages have as much to contribute to syntactic theory as do languages like English, French, and Italian."
This year, 702 AAAS members have been honored as fellows because of their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications. New fellows will be presented with an official certificate and a rosette pin on February 16, at the AAAS Fellows Forum during the 2013 AAAS Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts.

The AAAS is the world's largest general scientific society, and publisher of the journal Science, which has the largest paid circulation of any peer-reviewed general science journal in the world, with an estimated total readership of 1 million. AAAS was founded in 1848, and includes 261 affiliated societies and academies of science, serving 10 million individuals. The non-profit AAAS is open to all and fulfills its mission to "advance science and serve society" through initiatives in science policy, international programs, science education, and more.

**Holocaust Course Goes Hybrid**

The Humanities Division is pleased to announce an online component for the Literature/History course, "The Holocaust: The Destruction of European Jewry." Co-taught for over 20 years by Murray Baumgarten, Distinguished Professor of English and Comparative Literature, and Peter Kenez, Professor Emeritus, History, this hybrid course offers both online and on-campus elements and resources. Students on campus will be able to attend lecture and section, and will also have access to workbook activities, writing exercises, films and additional lectures online through eCommons. The online component will offer resources and coursework designed to allow students enrolled through UCSC’s extension program to fully engage with the topics, themes, and discussions that emerge in the on-campus version of the course.
Spotlight On The Institute for Humanities Research

2012-13 Research Clusters

The IHR's research cluster program is designed to encourage and support research in the Humanities. In addition to programming (for example: conferences, workshops, seminars, visiting scholars), clusters are encouraged to think about ways in which they can serve as an incubator for larger projects in the future, and how they can leverage cluster funds to secure extramural funding.

The following clusters received funding for the 2012-13 academic year.

Affect Working Group
The Affect Working Group draws together faculty and graduate students from across the University who are interested in the felt dimensions of social life. Activities since its formation in 2009 have consisted of reading groups, public lectures, and panel discussions. Faculty and graduate student participants in the Affect Working Group hail from multiple disciplines crossing four of the five divisions: American Studies, Anthropology, Art, Computer Science, Feminist Studies, Film and Digital Media, History of Art and Visual Culture, History of Consciousness, Latin American and Latino Studies, Literature, Politics, and Sociology. Several faculty participants in the group teach graduate courses on affect in their respective disciplines (Anthropology, Literature, Politics and Sociology), and have dedicated aspects of their previous work to the analysis of affect.

Philosophy in a Multicultural Context
Questions to be addressed in this research cluster include: In its investigation of human universals (e.g., human values, human rights, or the fundamental processes of human cognition, consciousness, and mind), is analytic philosophy as it is actually practiced already beyond cultural context, both its own and that of other cultures? If it is not, will analytic philosophy fail at its mission of inquiring into knowledge, values, and the nature of reality if it does not take the philosophy of culture, comparative philosophy, and multiculturalism seriously? Might there perhaps be a division of labor, with some areas of analytic philosophy being universal, while others are culturally-inflected? What are the possible relations between core analytic philosophy and the philosophy of culture, comparative philosophy, multiculturalism, and between philosophy and the human sciences more broadly?
Religious and Secular Entanglement

Through attentiveness to the intersections of multiple historical, social, linguistic and somatic cultural moments, the Religious and Secular Entanglement Cluster intends to facilitate discussions on the topic of ‘religion’ and the ‘secular’ as it relates to group formation and power, according to History of Consciousness graduate student Josh Brahinsky. With added emphasis on UCSC research, this year’s proposal hopes to expand the internal dialogue and to facilitate productive workshops with visiting scholars and graduate students. The cluster organized the Tanya Luhrmann Workshop: “How the Hippie Christians Became the Religious Right” in the Fall 2012 quarter and will host scholars in the upcoming quarters.

Your Academic Service Center Team

**Barbara Holland** is responsible for providing instructional and administrative support services to faculty and staff. Services range from assisting and updating course-related materials & correspondence; course-book ordering; bio-bibliography updates; processing incoming and outgoing faculty mail; faculty reimbursements; processing fax and copy requests. Barb also provides calendar scheduling for five humanities conference rooms in Humanities 1.

A native Southern Californian, Barb lived in Anaheim and Redondo Beach before moving to Santa Cruz 18 years ago. She has been married for 30 years and has two children – one in grad school, and the other who just graduated in December 2012 with a bachelors degree. Barb enjoys daily walks with her husband and dog at the beach or in the Santa Cruz Mountains. She dabbles in crafts, sewing and cooking, when time allows.

**Helen Hill** is responsible for providing instructional and administrative support services to faculty and staff. Services range from ordering desk copies; bio-bibliography updates; editing manuscripts; faculty reimbursements; processing fax and copy requests; processing incoming and outgoing faculty mail.

Helen enjoys singing at her church, and cooking with love for family and friends.
Candace Freiwald assists faculty, department and business office staff in their mission of educating the students, conducting research, and administering the department and business office by providing courteous, accurate, dependable and timely clerical support.

Humanities Heard

“The University of California is the finest public university system in the world. A crucial part of what makes us different from so many universities around the globe is the central role of the Humanities in our educational experience, not only in the curriculum but also in the vibrant intellectual life of our campuses. Here at UC Santa Cruz, we possess an especially rich tradition of innovation, creativity, and collaboration in the Humanities.”

(Excerpt from the Institute for Humanities Research 2011-2012 Annual Report, Director's Letter.)

Nathaniel Deutsch
Professor of History
Director of the Institute for Humanities Research
Co-Director, Center for Jewish Studies
Neufeld-Levin Chair in Holocaust Studies

Published three times a year (fall, winter, and spring), the Humanities Newsletter highlights the constellation of people, programs, and collaborations that demonstrate outstanding work in the Humanities.

We encourage you to contact us at humanities@ucsc.edu with questions or comments.