PACIFIC COAST CONFERENCE ON BRITISH STUDIES http://www.pccbs.org

Fall 2009

Letter from the President

The annual PCCBS conference at the University of San Diego on March 13-15 featured a wideranging program in contemporary scholarship in British Studies. We were very fortunate in securing the University's support for this event, and I know our members thank Dean Mary Boyd for generously sponsoring our reception and the University for providing the hospitality we enjoyed at the Joan B. Kroc Center for Peace and Justice. The conference offered members 26 panels and three plenaries on a wide variety of topics from the late middle ages to the present, covering affairs in the mother country as well as her relations

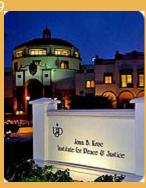
with her colonies, allies and rivals. Papers on "The Theory and Practice of Early Modern Diplomacy" were matched by others discussing "Foreign Policy in the Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries" and the breakdown of diplomacy in the experience of "War and Empire." Papers on the creation of "British and Australian science in the Pacific, 1770-1960," the construction of "British Communities" within a "British World," and the corresponding reception of "South and East Asian Traveler to Britain in the Late Nineteenth Century" explored the development of international relations in social terms. Papers

considering how representations of British-ness both literal and figurative opened perspectives on aspects of their cultures examined the dynamic effects of "Stuart Masques," the discourses of food, religion and law in "The Theater of Life in Early Modern Drama," how the public responded to "Print in Early Modern England," the effect of works depicting "Victorian Visual Culture," and finally literature on the imperialist state in "Writing the Empire, Writing the World."

to be held at
Pomona College
March 19th - 21st, 2010



PCCBS held its annual meeting at the
Joan B. Kroc School of
Peace Studies,
University of San Diego,
March 13th - 15th, 2009,





The topics of the plenary lectures brought this wealth of information further into focus: Professor Emeritus Patrick Joyce spoke on the effects of "political technologies" on the business of the "imperial British state," and Jacqueline Winspear, author of the Maisie Dobbs novels, discussed the vital role actual persons play in constructing their representations in fiction. The conference was fortunate securing as Plenary Speaker Andrée Hayum, Professor Emerita of Fordham University, who spoke on "Collecting and Exhibiting for the Public: the Early Art Museum in 19th-Century England," a subject that drew together many of the issues treated in the conference as a whole: that is, the relation between high and low culture, the authority of the artist or writer, and its translation to popular accessible forms and venues.

We were pleased to award our biennial prize for the Best Article of 2007 and 2008 to Amy Woodson-Boulton for "'Industry without Art is Brutality': Aesthetic Ideology and Social Practice in Victorian Art Museums," published in The Journal of British Studies, 46 (January 2007). Woodson-Boulton analyzes in detail the work of the art institutions in Birmingham, Liverpool, and Manchester as it both mirrors and constructs social values and aesthetic preferences. Molly McClain won Honorable Mention

for her article "Love, Friendship and Power: Queen Mary II's Letters to Frances Apsley," published in The Journal of British Studies 47 (July 2008), a deft and penetrating assessment of the correspondence between the Queen and Frances Apsley to reveal its emotional content and political significance. Our prize for the best Graduate Student Paper delivered at a conference went to Noah Millstone at Stanford for his essay "Evil Counsel: The 'Propositions to Bridle the Impertinency of Parliament' and the Crisis of 1629." Drawing on archival evidence, Millstone investigates how "Propositions" was designed to illustrate the despotism of Charles I and its impact on the politically astute reading public. We congratulate all three winners, and thank Jordanna Bailkin (University of Washington) for chairing the Article Prize Committee, and Jennifer Andersen (CSU San Bernadino) for chairing the Graduate Prize Committee.

As in past years, PCCBS has been the grateful beneficiary of various kinds of support. We thank the North American Conference on British Studies and the Center for Irish and British Studies at the University of Southern California for their generous contributions to the work of our conference in 2009. As all our members recognize, none of the work of the conference could have prospered without the early and discerning eye of the Program

Committee and its Chair, Patty Seleski (CSU San Marcos), nor could it have gone forward without the energy of Molly McClain (University of San Diego), who took charge of Local Arrangements and continuously oversaw the PCCBS website and its related announcements. For their able administrative assistance, we also thank our Vice-President George Behlmer (University of Washington), our Treasurer David Como (Stanford University), and our Secretary Simon Devereaux (University of Victoria).

We are now looking forward to our meeting on March 19th -21st at Pomona College in Claremont. **Professor Thomas Cogswell** (History, University of California at Riverside) will be our Program Chair – please see his Call for Papers below. Professor Robert Woods (History, Pomona College) will be in charge of Local Arrangements. Professor Norma Landau (History, University of California at Davis) will chair the 2010 biennial PCCBS Book Prize committee; Sammie McGlasson (History, Claremont Graduate University) will chair the 2010 annual Graduate Student Essay Prize committee. Please see announcements of these awards below.

I conclude on a very happy note: Peter Hoffenberg, Chair of the Board of Advisors of the Sidney Stern Memorial Trust, has invited PCCBS to apply for a grant from the Trust to help fund graduate student travel to the conference. We will be posting information on how members planning to attend our 2010 conference at Pomona College may apply for this travel money. I know our members are grateful to the Trust for its generosity.

Constance Jordan

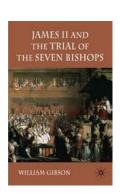
Member News:

Henry Alley (Professor Emeritus of Literature, U of Oregon) saw his 2006 article "Mrs. Dalloway and Three of its Contemporary Children" reprinted in Jeffrey W. Hunter (ed), Contemporary Literary Criticism (Thomson Gale, 2008) and also published "The Gay Artist as Tragic Hero in The Picturethe Picture of Dorian Gray" on CLCWeb: Comparative Literature 11.1. He also published the story "Item 'I,'" in Colere, 8 (2008), 16-24, and had another, Tame," accepted for publication: in Gertrude.

Alister Chapman (Westmont College, Santa Barbara) recently gave a paper on Fundamentalism and Evangelicalism in twentieth-century Britain at an EHRC/AHRC conference in London. He has been busy co-editing Seeing Things Their Way: Intellectual History and the Return of Religion with John Coffey and Brad S. Gregory, which comes out from the University of Notre Dame Press later this year .

Heidi Breuer (Department of Literature and Writing Studies, CSU San Marcos) published Crafting the Witch: Gendering Magic in Medieval and Early Modern England with Routledge this April 2009. It answers the question, "How did the witch become wicked in Arthurian literature from the 12th century to the 16th?" In addition, she has co-written an article (with Jeff Schoneman) entitled "So What?: Making Chaucer Matter in the Undergraduate Classroom," to appear in Kathleen Bishop (ed), Standing in the Shadow of the Master: Chaucerian Influences and Interpretations (Cambridge Scholars, 2010). The other gigantic news is that the CSU system is in trouble: everyone's taking 10% pay-cuts, which sure *feels* important.

Simon Devereaux (U of Victoria) published articles in *Past & Present* and *History Compass*.



William
Gibson
(Oxford
Brookes U)
published
James II and
the Trial of the
Seven Bishops
(Palgrave

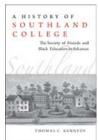
Macmillan, 2009). He is spending October as Visiting Fellow at the Armstrong-Browning Library at Baylor University, Texas, working on sermons of the eighteenth and nineteenth century.

Dorothea Kehler (San Diego State

U) published *Shakespeare's Widows* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009).

Thomas Kennedy's (U of Arkansas) book, Southland College: The Society of Friends and Black Education in Arkansas, will be published by the University of Arkansas Press in November . This study, a spin-off from previous work on British

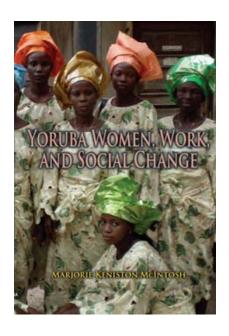
Quakers, relates the story of a school for blacks operated by Indiana Friends from 1864 until 1925. He is also



continuing his work on the Conservative Party and Ulster.

Marjorie McIntosh

(Distinguished Professor of History Emerita, U of Colorado at Boulder) published *Yoruba Women, Work, and Social Change* (Indiana University Press), a book about women in southwestern Nigeria, 1820-1960. She has now



happily returned to English history and is pulling together material on poor relief, 1350-1600.

John Money (U of Victoria) will see publication of his muchanticipated two-volume edition of the memoirs of Somerset excise officer John Cannon (1684–1743) – "the most comprehensive and detailed autobiography of any non-élite British individual created during the eighteenth century" (Oxford DNB) – by Oxford University Press in December 2009.

Matthew Neufeld (U of Alberta) is happy to report that, thanks to a SSHRC postdoctoral award, he will be taking up a Visiting Fellowship at Warwick University from August 2009 to April 2011. He will be researching cultural perceptions of wounded veterans over the period 1660 to 1740.

Priya Satia (Stanford U) is working on a new book, "Guns: The True History of the British

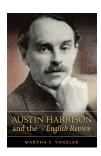


Empire," and looking forward to the October release of the paperback edition of her first book, *Spies in Arabia* (Oxford UP 2008.

Barbara Shapiro (UC Berkeley) has received a Mellon Research Grant for Emeriti Faculty for research on a book on English Political cultures 1558-1688. **David Smith** (U of Puget Sound) spent the summer teaching a graduate course on British society in the Second World War at the University of Wurzburg in Germany.

Michelle Tusan (U of Nevada, Las Vegas) published "The Business of Relief Work: A Victorian Quaker and Her Circle in Constantinople" in Victorian Studies (Summer 2009).

Martha S.
Vogeler (CSU
Fullerton)
has published
Austin
Harrison and
the 'English



Review' (University of Missouri Press, 2008).

Pacific Circle:

Interested in the history of science in the Pacific, including British, Australian and British imperial science? Please contact Prof. Peter Hoffenberg (University of Hawaii, Manoa) for a free copy of The Bulletin of the Pacific Circle, the official semiannual newsletter for the Circle, a community of scholars, scientists, and others interested in the history and practice of science in the Pacific region, rather broadly defined. That includes India, Australia, and New Zealand, with topics as varied as anthropology and Darwin's sea voyages. Prof. Hoffenberg can be reached at <peterh@hawaii.edu>.

Call for Papers: PCCBS Annual Meeting, 19-21 March 2010, Pomona College

The Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies (PCCBS) invites paper and panel proposals for its thirty-seventh meeting, to be held at Pomona College in Claremont, California. We solicit the participation of scholars in all areas of British Studies, broadly defined. In particular, we welcome proposals for interdisciplinary panels that draw on the work of historians, literary critics, and scholars in other disciplines whose focus is on Britain and its empire, from the Middle Ages to the present. Proposals for entire panels on a common theme will be given priority, although individual paper proposals will also be considered if several of them can be assembled to create a viable panel. Proposals for roundtable discussions of a topical work, or current issue in the field, or pedagogical practices with respect to the teaching of particular aspects of British Studies are also encouraged. The typical ninety-minute panel will deliver three papers, each lasting fifteen to twenty minutes, and include the participation of a chair and a commentator.

Proposals should include a general description of the panel or roundtable, a 200-300 word

abstract for each paper to be read and a one-page curriculum vitae for each participant. The address, phone number, and email address of every participant (including the chair and commentator) must be included in the proposal. For panel or roundtable proposals the name of the main contact person should be noted clearly.

Please send your proposals by **Friday, November 13, 2009** to:

Professor Thomas Cogswell Department of History University of California at Riverside Riverside, CA 92521-0204

thomas.cogswell@ucr.edu

PCCBS Graduate Prize Winner

Winner of the 2009 Graduate Prize Noah Millstone (Stanford), "Evil Counsel: The 'Propositions to Bridle the Impertinency of Parliament' and the Crisis of 1629"

In his essay, "Evil Counsel: The 'Propositions to Bridle the Impertinency of Parliament' and the Crisis of 1629," Noah Millstone investigates a surprisingly early and sophisticated example of political disinformation. His essay is clear, well researched, and well written. His deft analysis of a document designed to inflame fears of the Caroline regime's supposed intention of governing despotically

illuminates the subtlety of some of the methods employed by the opposition at this critical juncture. The role of "user publication," in this case preceding rather than following commercial printing, is especially interesting. Millstone expertly deploys archival evidence and the historiographical tradition surrounding this incident to make a persuasive case for the provenance, dissemination and intended impact of this document. We are delighted to name him as the winner of the 2009 PCCBS graduate student prize!

PCCBS Article Prize Winners

WINNER: Amy Woodson-Boulton, "'Industry without Art is Brutality': Aesthetic Ideology and Social Practice in Victorian Art Museums,"

Journal of British Studies, 46
(Jan 2007): 47-71.

Amy Woodson-Boulton's elegant and well-crafted article situates the study of the politics of culture in unfamiliar terrain: namely, in three detailed and deeply local studies of the provision of art institutions in Birmingham, Liverpool, and Manchester. Here, Woodson-Boulton ably demonstrates how even the single idea of aesthetic uplift could play out very differently in these three sites. Attentive to the nuances of the interplay between class formation and aesthetic

education as they manifested themselves in these diverse settings, Woodson-Boulton offers new insights into the highly charged relationship between cultural history and urban history.

HONORABLE MENTION: Molly McClain, "Love, Friendship and Power: Queen Mary II's Letters to Frances Apsley," *Journal of British Studies*, 47 (July 2008): 505-527.

Molly McClain's astute and original reading of the correspondence between Queen Mary II and Frances Apsley draws on a wide range of unpublished and little-known sources in order to make sense of this highly individual – yet also political – relationship between two early modern women. Bringing her subjects vividly to life, McClain offers an insightful portrait of the affective regimes of the court, exploring in compelling detail the complex thicket of emotional intimacy, sexual ambiguity, and political influence.

PCCBS Biennial Book Prize: Call for Submissions

The Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies (PCCBS) invites submissions for its fourth biennial book prize for the best book published by a member of PCCBS in 2008 or 2009. The prize will be awarded at the Spring 2010 meeting at Pomona College on 19-21 March 2010. The winner

will receive a monetary prize and be recognized at the annual meeting.

Submissions must be received by **December 14**th, **2009**. Authors, publishers and other interested persons may make nominations. Books on any subject concerning British Studies (broadly defined to include those who study England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, and Britain's empire) published by members of the PCCBS in calendar year 2006 or calendar year 2007 are eligible.

To be considered for the prize, one copy of the book should be sent directly to each of the following members of the prize committee:

Prof. Norma Landau
(*Prize Committee Chair*)
History Department
University of California at Davis
Davis, CA 95616

nblandau@uc.davis.edu

Prof. Jeffrey Auerbach
Department of History
Cal State University, Northridge
18111 Nordhoff Street
Northridge, CA
91330-8250
jeffrey.auerbach@csun.edu

Prof. Muriel McClendon
Department of History
UC Los Angeles, PO Box 951473
6265 Bunche Hall
Los Angeles, CA
90095-1473

mcclendo@history.ucla.edu

PCCBS Annual Graduate Paper Prize:

The Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies (PCCBS) invites submissions for the annual prize for the best conference paper presented during the 2009 calendar year by a graduate student member of the PCCBS. The prize will be awarded at the Spring 2010 meeting at Pomona College on March 19-21. The winner will receive a monetary prize and be recognized at the annual meeting.

Submissions should be made by the graduate student who presented the paper. Both the student and major professor must be members of the PCCBS. All graduate student papers presented at the 2009 PCCBS meeting at the University of San Diego are treated as submissions. Also eligible for submission are papers presented at another conference held during the 2009 calendar year by a graduate student studying at a university within the PCCBS region. Faculty advisors among the PCCBS membership are urged to encourage their eligible students to participate in the prize competition.

The written version of the conference paper, mirroring the oral conference presentation, must be based on original research and deal with a topic

within British Studies. Excursive footnotes may be added.

Submitted papers, along with documentation concerning the conference where the paper was presented, must be received by the committee chair by **January 8, 2010**. Please submit the paper in the form of a digital copy sent as an email attachment or in the form of three hard-copies sent by mail to:

Dr. Sammie McGlasson (*Prize Committee Chair*) 4425 Juanita Ave Chino, CA 91710

sammiemac@earthlink.net

The other committee members are:

Prof. Heather E. Streets
History Department
Washington State University
Wilson 315
Pullman, WA 99164-4030
streetsh@wsu.edu

Prof. Tillman Nechtman Department of History Skidmore College 815 North Broadway Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

tnechtma@skidmore.edu