



The Community College HUMANIST

A Tri-Annual Publication of the Community College Humanities Association

PREPARE TO ATTEND THE FALL CONFERENCE!

**“Humanities at the Crossroads”
Central Division Conference,
October 13-15, 2000**

Crossroads - The intersection of two or more paths, a point where individuals, communities, ideas, and objects meet; a place where exchange is possible, where coming together and then moving apart occurs. The Central Division chose this notion of the crossroads as the theme for our year 2000 conference as a way to examine the various intersections in the humanities.
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**“Trails Through Time: Common Bonds through the Humanities” -
Southwestern Division Conference,
November 2-4, 2000**

From November 2 - 4, 2000, faculty will gather in Santa Fe, New Mexico for the Community College Humanities Association Southwestern Division Conference.

Thursday afternoon seminars include A Pecos National Historic Park@ by author Frances Levine; A The Sacred, Yesterday and Today,@ with panel members Greg Lonewolf, Arlene Cisneros Sena, and Malcolm McCollum followed by tours of the Santiago exhibit at the International Folk Art Museum and exhibits at the Museum of Indian *(Continued on Page 3)*

**“Diverse Communities: One City”
Southern Division Conference,
October 26-28, 2000**



CCHA/NEH INSTITUTE ON MAYA WORLD STARTS OFF WITH INTENSITY AND COLLEGIALITY

The rains have stopped, it's a beautiful day and our group has just come back from a two hour colorful procession for the feast of Corpus Christi through the streets of colonial Antigua.
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Maya World Staff:
(l-r) – George Scheper, George Lovell, and Laraine Fletcher

**“Discovering the Past – Shaping the Future” - Pacific Western Division Conference,
November 2-4, 2000**

The Pacific Western Division Regional Conference will be held November 2-4, 2000 in San Diego, California at the world-class Westgate Hotel. The location of this conference is in the heart of San Diego, close to the harbor, the Gaslamp Quarter, Coronado Island, and 5 minutes from the airport (by hotel shuttle).

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**“Mr. Chips in CyberCollege”
Eastern Division Conference,
November 9 –11, 2000**

The eastern region year 2000 conference, Mr. Chips in CyberCollege, will be hosted by Montgomery College, Maryland, with easy access via metro from the conference hotel to the museums, theatres, and fine dining of Washington, DC. We expect a lively conference as we discuss the merits of the electronic classroom versus chalk on blackboard.
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**CCHA/NEH INSTITUTE ON
MAYA WORLD STARTS OFF
WITH INTENSITY AND
COLLEGIALITY** *(Continued from
Page 1)*

The twenty-five participants in the Maya World Institute, sponsored by CCHA and funded by NEH, arrived in Guatemala on June 18th to begin a six week academic odyssey in the Maya regions of Guatemala, Chiapas and Yucatan.

One of only seven national institutes funded for the summer of 2000, the Maya World project offers participating faculty an intensive program of seminars and site visits with fourteen renowned specialists in Maya archaeology, anthropology, history and literature.

The twenty-five participants themselves represent an unusually distinguished array of academics from a wide spectrum of American higher education, - community colleges, four year colleges and universities - and from every region of the United States. The interests the participants bring to the institute range

from architecture to theater and performance art, Latin American literature, anthropology, archaeology, art history and Native American studies.

Our project got off to a high energy start the first week with seminars by historical geographer George Lovell, literary critic Mary Louise Pratt, and Maya authors Pedro Gaspar Gonzalez and Victor Montejo. George Lovell, an expert on the colonial history of highland Guatemala, got the project off to a stimulating start with an overview of the social history of Guatemala with an emphasis on how the Spanish colonial system and then modern capitalism have impacted the traditional Maya way of life. Discussion of the contemporary situation was picked up in Mary Louise Pratt's seminars on the "testimonio" of Nobel Prize winner Rigoberta Menchu - and on the recent controversy arising from David Stoll's challenge to the veracity of certain details in Menchu's narrative.

The week concluded with sessions with Victor Montejo, a Maya author, who was himself a survivor of the intense violence of the 70's and 80's, and is now one of

only two Maya Ph.D's in anthropology in the United States. Montejo first discussed his own life experience and the harrowing incidents reported in his first person account of intimidation by the Guatemalan military, and then turned to the topic of oral tradition and story telling in his Jacalteco Maya tradition.

We also met with Maya author Pedro Gaspar Gonzalez, who described the genesis of his own career as the first Maya novelist, and who today is an official in the Guatemalan Ministry of Education. In addition to these scheduled speakers, through contacts through some of our participants, we were able to have discussions with a Maya day-keeper, Roberto Poz, and his wife Lesbia, who established a preschool for Maya children in her village. As if this were not enough, the week ended with one of our participants presenting a two-hour evening session on current events in the highland town of Todos Santos. An tomorrow morning at five a.m. we are off to the Classic site of Copan, Honduras and five more weeks of nonstop immersion in the Maya world.

CCHA/NEH Maya World Participants

Roberta Alexander, San Diego City College (CA)
Gail Ament, Morningside College (IA)
Beverly Brown, Rockland Community College (NY)
Robert Cahn, Fashion Institute of Technology (NY)
Elizabeth Coonrod Martinez, Sonoma State University (CA)
Roger Robin Ekins, Butte College (CA)
Jane England, North Central Texas College (TX)
Benjamin Feinberg, Warren Wilson College (NC)
Marjorie Ferry, Chemeketa Community College (OR)

Jennie Frederick, Maple Woods Community College (MO)
Andres Gonzales, College of San Mateo (CA)
Anita Gonzales, Florida State University (FL)
Linda Grant Nieman, Kennesaw State University (GA)

Jeffrey Hamley, Kennesaw State University (GA)
Lawrence Hetrick, Georgia Perimeter College (GA)
Carol Horigan, Pensacola Junior College (FL)
Sandra Joshel, New England Conservatory (MA)
Robert Keeler, Clackamas Community College (OR)
Keena Noone, Seminole Community College (FL)
Karrie Porter-Brace, Beloit College (WI)
Perla Sasson-Henry, Castleton State College (VT)
Mark Schneider, College of Architecture and Urban Studies (VA)

Robert Sitler, Stetson University (FL)
Judith Thorn, Santa Rosa Junior College (CA)
Ann Wellington, Southeast Community College (NE)

“Humanities at the Crossroads” Central Division Conference, October 13-15, 2000 (Continued from Page 1)

And so our conference will focus on meeting points in the humanities - those places where disciplines or perspectives meet and influence each other, where people encounter cultures, ideas and experiences from many different directions. So we invite you to consider this notion when you attend our conference in Cedar Rapids, Iowa from October 13 to 15. Our three featured speakers provide various spins on what occurs when one reaches an intersection - Performer and music historian Bill Malone, will take us down country roads with his discussion/performance on the history of country music at our opening session on Thursday evening. Historian Mike Marty will help us examine crossroads in our own organization by reflecting on a speech

he made about the humanities when CCHA was founded twenty years ago. And in one of the more extraordinary reflections on this theme of intersection, Dierdre will focus on sexual crossroads and crossing from one gender to another.

While our three featured speakers will provide plenty for conference attendees to consider, we think the other parts of the conference should provide equal excitement. Our opening session takes place in the newly opened History Center in downtown Cedar Rapids. This facility is an amazing display of local history, traveling exhibits and community spirit. It offers a fascinating view of this region and some great insights into the history of the city. And just a few blocks from this site is a very nice Art Museum. Cedar Rapids might be said to personify the spirit of the heartland - it is the home of Quaker Oats and also of painter Grant Wood of “American Gothic” fame. The city

also offers some jazz, theater and a symphony orchestra depending on your taste.

There is a full slate of sessions as well. In additions to sessions dealing with technology and pedagogical issues, presenters will be doing sessions on American religion at the crossroads, crossing roles (teaching/administrating while completing a dissertation) and journals as intersections of life and learning. We will also have sessions on applying for NEH grants, CCHA funded NEH institutes, and the Faces of America project from San Diego Mesa college. One of the highlights will be a session called “Outside In” African American History in Iowa, 1833 -2000. Currently on display in the state capitol, this project is one other folks in our region might want to model for projects in their states or colleges.

“Discovering the Past – Shaping the Future” - Pacific Western Division Conference, November 2-4, 2000 (Continued from Page 1)

The wide variety of sessions and pre-conference workshops will be complimented by guest speakers Dr. James Quay, executive director of the

California Council for the Humanities, co-producer of the award-winning series, Vietnam Reconsidered: Lessons from a War and co-author of “Making Connections: The Humanities, Culture, and Community:; and Cecil Lytle, Provost of Thurgood Marshall College at UCSD and winner of first prize at the Franz Lizst International Piano Competititon, and nominee for

an Emmy for his public television series The Nature of Genius.

Other activities that are planned include: a reception at the San Diego Historical Society in Balboa Park, and a special behind the scenes tour of the World-Famous San Diego Zoo to learn about their endangered species and environmental programs.

“Trails Through Time: Common Bonds through the Humanities” Southwestern Division Conference, November 2-4, 2000

Arts and Culture by Dianne Cheseldine and Stephen Fadden respectively; and AA History of the Palace of the Governors@ by Museum Director Thomas Chavez. The evening kick-off reception will feature Akwesasne Mohawk myths and flute music by Stephen Fadden. On Friday and Saturday mornings, forty-eight concurrent sessions will be presented by faculty from nine states at the Hotel St. Francis and the

Hotel Loretto. Fridays events begin at lunch with a keynote presentation, ASinging Across Enemy Lines: A Reading and a Conversation,@ by author and activist Demetria Martinez. Pre-dinner entertainers include flamenco guitarist Ruben Romero and company and a flamenco dancer. The keynote presentation of the evening by author and activist David James Duncan is entitled “Beauty/Violence/Grief/Frenzy/Love: The Contemplative vs. the Active Life.” During the luncheon on Saturday, conference attendees will

meet Mabel Dodge Luhan, hostess to art and literary notables, as she is portrayed by Jean Jordan. Saturday afternoon seminars will continue the theme of the sacred in a tour by Rebecca Myers and visits to churches on the High Road between Santa Fe and Taos guided by Tim Davis, Daniel Jaramillo, and Gloria López Cordova. Meals will be served in the Southwestern ambiance of the Hotel Loretto.

**“Mr. Chips in CyberCollege”
Eastern Division Conference
November 9-11, 2000
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The theme of this year's conference is the interaction of the humanities and technology. Education is no longer merely an off-ramp on the internet highway, but a major interchange, with particular importance for the humanities.

This year's sessions will both praise and question technology, in sessions ranging from "Herman Melville in Antebellum America" to "Women on the Web." The sessions are designed to encourage participants, tantalize them, and warn them of potential pitfalls in the electronic classroom. In addition, the non-electronic learning environment is not neglected, with several sessions and a preconference workshop recognizing the value of such environments. Preconference workshops are more than mere appetizers for the main conference menu. Dr. Anna Katsavos, of Nassau Community College, in a leading

edge workshop, will help participants develop classroom techniques targeted at getting students to become active learners.

Dr. Yitna Firdyiwek, of the University of Virginia, formerly on the faculty of Northern Virginia Community College, has designed a workshop to help humanities faculty develop a learning community within the electronic classroom as a concomitant of true content learning.

Dr. Frank Connolly, of American University, will lead participants through the increasingly murky area of copyright and intellectual property: What is intellectual property? Who owns a faculty member's web site, on-line course, or CD-ROM?

Plenary session speakers will generate excitement and, it is hoped, controversy, as a conference on new technologies should not be only static acceptance of the "new."

Leading off on Thursday evening will be Sven Birkerts, author of "The Gutenberg Elegies: The Fate of Reading in an Electronic Age" whose

insightful thoughts on the demise of reading may give listeners a pause.

Friday lunchtime will see a breathtaking presentation by Dr. Stephen Murray, whose projections of his cathedral studies through the electronic media are well known.

At Saturday brunch, conference goers will have the unique opportunity to hear Dr. Valerie Neal, a curator at the National Air and Space Museum, discuss the development of a museum exhibit when no artifacts exist because it is an exhibit of the future. Following brunch, Dr. Neal will personally conduct a tour, at the Air and Space Museum, of one of her own gallery exhibits.

Getting to the Museum on the Mall in Washington, DC, as well as to the planned theatre party, will be easy as the conference hotel, the Double Tree Inn, is located adjacent to a metro stop. Conference goers will be able to walk out the door of the hotel, hop on the metro, and glide into Washington!