From the Director

It is an exciting time to join the intellectual community of the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts at the University of Georgia. The strong foundations laid by Dr. Betty Jean Craige provide for a firm base from which to build new ideas. I believe from experience and conviction that the humanities and the arts are a bridge between academic excellence and the community to which we contribute. The humanities and the arts are fundamental to the creation of a dynamic and creative economy. They generate ideas for social resilience and inclusion. They comprise much of the smartest thinking on campus. We know there are formidable challenges to humanities and arts research now and in the coming years, which will require imagination, passion and resources to meet. I believe that these challenges offer an opportunity, which is to give arts and humanities a critical and creative presence in our institutions and society.

In James Joyce’s great novel of becoming, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, Stephen Dedalus reflects that by thinking about things you can understand them. I was reminded of this observation when I read the University of Georgia’s motto, which is “to teach, to serve, and to inquire into the nature of things.” Such inquiry is fundamental to our human development as scholars, artists and creative thinkers within the...

Willson Center Distinguished Lecturers

The Willson Center Distinguished Lecturer Program brings to campus distinguished scholars and artists, nominated by faculty and selected by the Advisory Board, whose appeal transcends disciplinary boundaries. The Willson Center Distinguished Lecturers for spring 2012 are Geoff Eley, nominated by Bethany Moreton (History) and Steven Soper (History); Pier Francesco Ferrari, nominated by Dorothy Fragaszy (Psychology); and Amy Franceschini, nominated by Mark Callahan (Lamar Dodd School of Art).

**Geoff Eley**, Karl Pohrt Distinguished University Professor of Contemporary History, is Professor of History and German Studies and Chair of the Department of History at the University of Michigan. He will deliver a Willson Center lecture on “The Past Under Erasure: History, Memory, and the Contemporary” on Friday, March 23 at 4 p.m. in 248 Miller Learning Center.


Eley is editor of *The Goldhagen Effect: History, Memory, Nazism: Facing the German Past* (2000), and *Society, Culture, and Politics in Germany, 1870-1930:... continued on page 2
community of the university, the state and the wider world.

My own work is located at the intersection between literature, history and visual culture. I am writing a book presently about the year 1916 for Cambridge University Press and have just published an edited volume of letters by the Irish revolutionary and writer Ernie O’Malley called Broken Landscapes. My other interests include the study of modernism, empire and, increasingly, writing about ocean and archipelago. I have won major research grants, including in the digital humanities, and have been Burns Visiting Fellow at Boston College. I taught previously at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (which also, as I remember, claimed to be the oldest public university in the United States of America) and I look forward to renewing my acquaintance with the cultures and histories of the southern states of the Atlantic seaboard.

The Willson Center has two decades and more of research achievement behind it. I look forward to leading it into the future with you. The humanities and the arts generate exciting ideas fundamental to our human ambition for creativity, productivity and community. Your ambitions for the future have the potential to shape the reputation and impact of the University of Georgia as a major research university internationally. The role of Director of the Willson Center is a privilege to hold and I will use it to build humanities and arts research in the University through advocacy, partnerships and your co-operation.

My role as Director of the Willson Center is to facilitate you, the faculty member, in the development and promotion of your research. This will include supporting and developing the funding and projects that the Willson Center provides currently. I invite you to contribute to a continuing conversation over the coming months to discuss ways in which we can broaden and focus these resources together. My door is always open. Please feel free to get in touch.

I would like to give special thanks to those individuals who gave of their time to meet with me during the search process. One of the great qualities of the faculty at the University of Georgia is the open enthusiasm for the Willson Center and its potential. This enthusiasm was transmitted to me as a sincere hope for the Center’s pivotal role in humanities and arts research in a developing context. There is much work before us. I look forward to starting it with you.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of you for the warm welcome you have extended on my arrival at the University of Georgia. With my wife Louise and three children, Chloe, Patrick and Cormac, I look forward to getting to know you all better during the coming months.

The Willson Center for Humanities and Arts is published each fall and spring semester. It circulates to all faculty at UGA, to other humanities and arts centers around the country and to agencies that fund humanities and arts programs.

Nicholas Allen
Director
Franklin Professor of English

Lloyd Winstead
Associate Director
Managing Director of the Delta Prize Program

Julie Dingus
Administrative Associate

The University of Georgia is committed to principles of equal opportunity and affirmative action.
Announcements

Current Competitions
Deadlines January 19, February 7 and February 16

The Willson Center Research Fellowship Program supports University of Georgia faculty engaged in humanities research or artistic creation or performance by providing release time (two courses) from teaching. Priority may be given to applicants who have solicited external funding to support their research. Willson Center Research Fellowships may be awarded to individuals only once every five years. Applications will be judged in one of two categories: Tenured and Untenured. Deadline: January 19.

The Willson Center Faculty Seminar Program provides $2,000 to faculty organizing interdisciplinary discussion groups on particular research topics. The funds are to be used to bring to campus scholars from other institutions. Proposals for the following academic year, which may be submitted by email to the Willson Center (ctrha@uga.edu), will be considered on February 16.

The Willson Center Distinguished Lecturer Program brings to campus in the following academic year distinguished scholars and artists, nominated by faculty and selected by the Advisory Board, whose appeal transcends disciplinary boundaries. Deadline: February 16.

The Willson Center Publication Subvention Program supports scholarship in the humanities and the arts at the University of Georgia by providing subvention when necessary to ensure the publication of excellent research that brings credit to the author and to the University of Georgia. Deadlines: September 1 and January 19.

The OVPR Junior Faculty Research Grants in the Humanities and Arts Program awards grants to assistant professors for research projects in the humanities and arts. The program is funded by the University of Georgia Research Foundation and administered by the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts. Deadline: February 7.

The OVPR Senior Faculty Research Grants in the Humanities and Arts Program awards grants to associate and full professors for research projects in the humanities and arts. The program is funded by the University of Georgia Research Foundation and administered by the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts. Deadline: February 7.

The Willson Center receives nominations on a continuous basis for the Delta Prize for Global Understanding. Since its creation in 1999, the Prize has been awarded to President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter and The Carter Center, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, President Mikhail Gorbachev, Mrs. Sadako Ogata, President Václav Havel, Ambassador Gertrude Mongella, Mr. Ted Turner, President Nelson Mandela, President Martti Ahtisaari, and Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei. Faculty, staff and students are invited to submit nominations for the Delta Prize. Nomination details can be found at www.uga.edu/news/deltaprize.

Willson Center Awards
Graduate Student Research and Performance Grants

› Lisa Ward Bolding
  (English)

› Ashley David
  (English)

› Adam Forrester
  (Lamar Dodd School of Art)

› Christine Hellyer
  (Lamar Dodd School of Art)

› Sandy McCain
  (Lamar Dodd School of Art)

› La Shonda C. Mims
  (History)

› Elizabeth Whittenburg Ozment
  (Hugh Hodgson School of Music)

› Terence Tirpak
  (Lamar Dodd School of Art)

› Hannah Waits
  (History)

Hannah Waits also won the Janelle Padgett Knight Award.

Reception for Nicholas Allen

Jane Willson will host a welcome reception for Nicholas Allen in the Pecan Tree Galleria of the Georgia Center for Continuing Education on Thursday, February 2, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The University community is invited to attend. Please see page 12.
Announcements

Faculty Publications - 2011


Figueira, Dorothy and Marc Maufort, eds. Theatres In The Round. PIE-Peter Lang, 2011.


Call for Information about External Grants

The Willson Center will publish in its fall newsletter a list of external grants obtained by scholars in the humanities and the arts for the 2012-2013 academic year. Faculty are encouraged to send grant information (source of grant and amount) to jdingus@uga.edu by May 1.
Willson Center Cinema Roundtable: Terrence Malick’s *The Tree of Life*

On Friday, January 20 at 4 p.m. in 248 Miller Learning Center, The Willson Center Cinema Roundtable will examine Terrence Malick’s *The Tree of Life*.

Malick, director of such notable films as *The Thin Red Line* (1998), *Badlands* (1973) and *Days of Heaven* (1978), won the top prize at the 2011 Cannes Film Festival for *The Tree of Life* starring Jessica Chastain, Sean Penn and Brad Pitt.

Panelists will discuss the unusual story and style of Malick’s *The Tree of Life*. Participants include Hugh Ruppersburg (English), Jennifer Barker (Georgia State University), Michelle Schreiber (Emory University) and Deron Overpeck (Auburn University). Richard Neupert (Film Studies) will moderate the panel and audience discussion.

Willson Center Television Roundtable: “The Simpsons”

On Wednesday, February 15, at 4 p.m. in 150 Miller Learning Center, the Willson Center will sponsor a Television Roundtable on “The Simpsons” hosted by Horace Newcomb (Peabody awards / Telecommunications). Introduced by Fox Broadcasting in December 1989, the animated satirical comedy is now in its twenty-third season and is the longest-running scripted, prime-time series, surpassing the Western drama *Gunsmoke* (1955-1975). Panelists will include faculty and students from the Grady College.

Willson Center Cinema Roundtable: Contemporary World Cinema

On Friday, April 13 at 4 p.m. in 248 Miller Learning Center, The Willson Center Cinema Roundtable will discuss trends in contemporary world cinema. Participants include Richard Neupert (Film Studies), Esra Santesso (English), Rachel Gabara (Romance Languages) and Hyangsoon Yi (Comparative Literature). Hugh Ruppersburg (English) will moderate the panel and audience discussion.
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<td>Willson Center Television Roundtable The Simpsons 4 pm, 150 Miller Learning Center</td>
<td>Deadline for Willson Center Distinguished Lecturer and Faculty Seminar Grant applications</td>
<td>Evan K. Ayotte, Visiting Lecturer Costuming Movement: Classical to Contemporary 11:15 am, New Dance Theatre, Dance Building</td>
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<td>Art is a Verb</td>
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<td>2012 Delta Prize for Global Understanding Award Ceremony</td>
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<td>2012 Delta Prize for Global Understanding Award Ceremony</td>
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<td>Pier Francesco Ferrari, Distinguished Lecturer</td>
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<td>Judith O. Cofer, English</td>
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Visiting Artist

Efrem Podgaits

Every year the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts brings to campus for five-day or nine-day periods eminent scholars and artists from the United States and elsewhere in the world. While on campus they engage in a range of activities, delivering public lectures, speaking to graduate and undergraduate classes, giving workshops and performances, and meeting faculty and students. Those who stay in residence halls also spend an evening with students, introducing students to their field of expertise through scholarly presentations or demonstrations.

During spring semester of 2012, the Willson Center Visiting Artist is Efrem Podgaits hosted by Levon Ambartsumian (Hugh Hodgson School of Music).

Composer Efrem Podgaits will be on campus from April 3-13, 2012. He will give a Willson Center lecture on Friday, April 13, at 6 p.m. in Ramsey Hall. On Thursday, April 12, at 8 p.m., the ARCO Chamber Ensemble under the direction of Levon Ambartsumian will perform his Concerto for Violin, Piano, Percussion and Orchestra.

Podgaits graduated from the Moscow Conservatory in composition. Since 1978, he has been a member of the Russian Union of Composers. From 1982-1990, he was director of the artistic association Composers and Children. In 2000, he was awarded the title of Merited Propagator of the Arts of Russia.

Podgaits is the composer of a number of operas including Alice Through the Looking-Glass, The Prince and the Pauper, Dyuimovockha (Thumbolina, winner of the Grand-Prix in 2001 for the best children’s performance), Lord of the Flies and The Little Prince. He has also produced three symphonies as well as numerous concerti and ensemble compositions.

Podgaits’s works have been performed at musical festivals and competitions in Russia and around the world including Great Britain, Turkey, Hungary, Switzerland, France, Japan, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Ukraine, Belarus, Tadzhikistan, Georgia, and Italy.


Eley’s honors include a University of Michigan University Press Book Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Michigan Humanities Award.

**Pier Francesco Ferrari**, Assistant Professor in Biology at the School of Medicine at the University of Parma, Italy, will give a Willson Center lecture on “Mirror Neurons and the Emergence of a Social Mind in Primates” on March 20 at 4 p.m. in 102 Miller Learning Center.

Ferarri is author of many articles, research reports and book chapters on the neuroethology of social behavior and underlying cognitive processes. He is co-editor of The Primate Mind: Built to Connect with Other Minds (2012).

Ferarri’s current research focuses on the role of parietal and pre-motor cortical functions in relation to social cognition in macaques, primarily the role of mirror neurons in monkey social cognition. He also examines the development of cognitive processes in non-human primates.

From 2007 to 2008, Ferarri served as Adjunct Scientist at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, Bethesda, Maryland, conducting research on cortical development in relation to cognitive functions in monkeys.

Artist, educator, and award winning web designer **Amy Franceschini** will give a Willson Center lecture on “Art is a Verb” on Tuesday, March 6 at 4 p.m. in 101 Miller Learning Center.

In her art Franceschini examines community, sustainable environment, and the perceived conflict between humans and nature. She presents her work through dynamic websites, installations, open-access laboratories, and educational formats that challenge current cultural, social, and economic systems. She is co-editor of Farm Together Now (2010).

In 2004, Franceschini co-founded Free Soil, an international collective of artists, activists, researchers, and gardeners. Free-Soil is a website where participants share information and ideas about alternatives to current political and environmental systems.

In 1995, Franceschini founded Futurefarmers, an international collective of artists whose work uses new media tools to foster sociability on the internet and through interactive installations. Futurefarmers hosts artists from around the world in residency programs that offer a platform for collaboration and research. Futurefarmers has received a number of awards including Transmediale New Media Award (2003), Ars Electronica Golden Nica (2002) and a Webby Award (1998 and 1999).

Franceschini’s work has been exhibited at various venues including the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and the Center for Art and Media in Karlsruhe, Germany. She is recipient of an Artadia Award, a Eureka Fellowship, a Guggenheim Fellowship and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art’s SECA (Society for the Encouragement of Contemporary Art) Art Award.

Franceschini leads workshops and presents lectures at venues such as the Experimental Media Lab at Stanford University, the San Francisco Art Institute, and Kunstencentrum Vooruit and Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst in Gent, Belgium. She is a visiting artist at the California College of the Arts. ■
Sujata Iyengar Gives GMOA/Willson Center Lecture

Sujata Iyengar (English) will give the annual GMOA/Willson Center Lecture on “Pop Goes Shakespeare: Illustration, Adaptation, and Appropriation in the Arden Shakespeare Covers, second series” on Thursday, April 19, 2012, at 4 p.m. in the M. Smith Griffith Auditorium of the Georgia Museum of Art.


Iyengar is a founding editor (with Christy Desmet) of *Borrowers and Lenders: The Journal of Shakespeare and Appropriation*, which won First Prize in the “Best New Journal” category from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals (2007).

Cofer to Give Poetry Reading

Judith Ortiz Cofer, Regents and Franklin Professor of English and Creative Writing, will give a poetry reading on *The Georgia Notebook: A Prose and Poetry Reading* at 4 p.m. in 265 Park Hall on Thursday, March 29.


Cofer has received numerous awards and honors for her writing. The *Latin Delí* was selected for the 2005 Georgia Top 25 Reading List, a project of the Georgia Center for the Book. *Call Me María* was selected as one of two texts to receive Honorable Mention for the 2005 Americas Award, sponsored by the National Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs. The *Meaning of Consuelo* was selected as one of two winners of the 2003 Americas Award. The novel was also included on the New York Public Library’s “Books for the Teen Age 2004 List.”
Cuomo Gives Science for Humanists Talk on Climate Change

Chris Cuomo (Philosophy and Women’s Studies) will give a Willson Center Science for Humanists lecture, “On the Social Dimensions of Climate Change,” on February 22 at 4 p.m. in 150 Miller Learning Center.

Cuomo is Professor of Philosophy and Women’s Studies, and an affiliate faculty member of the Environmental Ethics Certificate Program and the Institute for African-American Studies.

Cuomo is author of The Philosopher Queen (2002), a reflection on post-9/11 anti-war feminist politics, which was nominated for a Lambda Award and an APA book award. She is co-author of The Feminist Philosophy Reader (2007). She is author and editor of many articles in feminist, postcolonial, and environmental philosophy. Her work in ecofeminist philosophy and creative interdisciplinary practice combines social justice and environmental concerns through theory and application.

Cuomo has received research grants from the Rockefeller Foundation, the National Science Foundation, the Ms. Foundation, the National Council for Research on Women, and the Institute for Sustainability and Technology Policy.

Holland Gives Science for Humanists Talk on Fossils

Paleontologist and stratigrapher Steven Holland (Geology) will give a Willson Center Science for Humanists lecture on “From Shells to Bones: How We Find Fossils” at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, in 248 Miller Learning Center.

Holland will discuss how paleontologists search for fossils, both vertebrates and invertebrates, and how this work enhances the understanding of evolution, ecology, and climate change.

Through field work and computer simulations, Holland investigates the long-term response of marine invertebrate communities and sedimentary environments to sea-level change and climate change. He is currently collaborating on a study of sedimentary and faunal responses to climate change by examining the greenhouse-to-icehouse transition preserved in the Late Ordovician Bighorn Dolomite of Wyoming.

Holland has written extensively on paleobiology and paleontology. He is co-author of Stratigraphic Paleobiology: Understanding the Distribution of Fossil Taxa in Time and Space (2012). He is co-editor of Stratigraphic Renaissance in the Cincinnati Arch: Implications for Upper Ordovician Paleontology and Paleoecology (2008).

Holland received the Charles Schuchert Award from the Paleontological Society (2003) and the James Lee Wilson Award from the Society for Sedimentary Geology (2000).
You are cordially invited to the

**Willson Center for Humanities and Arts Reception**

Jane Willson will host a welcome reception for Nicholas Allen. The University community is invited to attend.

**Thursday, February 2 from 5 to 6:30 p.m.**

Pecan Tree Galleria of the Georgia Center for Continuing Education