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2007-08 O'Fallon Lecture

MIT's Henry Jenkins Talks About How Digital Technologies Are Reshaping Popular Culture

Welcome to convergence culture, where old and new media collide, where audiences participate in the production and circulation of media content, where social networks shape the flow of music, where stories extend across multiple media platforms, where teens become media producers by sampling and remixing their favorite bands, and where YouTube and Second Life become the meeting grounds for diverse creative communities.

On **Wednesday, January 16, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.** in **182 Lillis Hall**, MIT Media Professor **Henry Jenkins** will speak on **"Art and Storytelling in the Age of Media Convergence."** He will explore how growing trends towards media convergence, collective intelligence, transmedia entertainment, pop cosmopolitanism, and participatory culture are reshaping the ways media gets produced, circulated, and consumed. Jenkins maintains that this isn't just fun and games—these shifts in our relations to popular culture are starting to impact politics, education, and

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2007-08 Clark Lecture

Stephen Schneider to Speak on Global Warming

In partnership with the Environmental Studies Program, the OHC is pleased to host Stanford biology and environmental studies professor **Stephen Schneider** in the 2007-08 Clark Lecture entitled **"Global Warming: How Do We Manage the Risks?"** The lecture will take place on **Tuesday, March 4, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.** in **182 Lillis Hall**.

There is a strong and growing consensus that due to an increasing number of people in the world demanding a higher standard of living using cheap, available technologies based on the burning of fossil fuels, the carbon dioxide content in the atmosphere will double or even triple by 2100. This increase in CO₂ in the atmosphere implies many serious consequences, though as Stephen Schneider points out, not all of them are negative. How-

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TELLING: Veterans' Voices

Theatre Arts and the Veterans and Family Student Association (VFSA) present **TELLING**, a "witness theater" production chronicling the experiences of veterans of the U.S. military as they return from service and try to reintegrate themselves into society as students, family members, friends, and citizens. Directed by professor John Schmor, the student-veteran actors will present scenes and monologues based upon their own experiences and words. Performances are **February 8 and 9 at 8 p.m.** and **Sunday, February 10 at 2 p.m.** at the **Veteran's Memorial Hall**, 1626 Willamette St., Eugene. Admission is free. Donations welcomed. For information, contact <vfsa@uoregon.edu>.

Jenkins

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religion, offering us new models for what it means to participate in the powerful institutions which impact our lives.

An eccentric and popular figure on the MIT campus, Jenkins is a scholar at the forefront of exploring how digital technologies are reshaping popular culture. Described by a colleague as the embodiment of "principled antic behavior," Jenkins calls himself a "fan," who "boldly goes where no humanist has gone before." He is the Peter de Florez Professor of Humanities and the co-director of the Comparative Media Studies Program at MIT. Jenkins is the author or editor of twelve books on media and popular culture including *Convergence Culture: Where Old and New Media Collide* (2006), and *Fans, Bloggers and Gamers: Media Consumers in a Digital Age* (2006). He regularly writes about media and culture change at his blog, henryjenkins.org.

This lecture, sponsored by Betsy Mayer and the O'Fallon family, is free and open to the public, and will be followed by a book sale and signing. For more information, or for disability accommodations (which must be made by January 9), please call (541) 346-3934.

Renowned Calligrapher and Buddhist Scholar to Visit Eugene Feb. 12-14, 2008

Japanese calligrapher and Buddhist scholar **Kazuaki Tanahashi** will be visiting Eugene and presenting three events in mid-February. On **Tuesday, February 12**, at **7 p.m.** he will give a talk at the **Eugene Zendo** (2190 Garfield St.) on Dogen Zenji, the founder of the Soto School of Buddhism in Japan. Then, in conjunction with the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art's exhibit, "Buddhist Visions," Tanahashi will be giving a **talk and calligraphy demonstration** in the Papé Room at the Museum on **Wednesday, February 13**, at **6 p.m.** entitled "In Search of the Meaning of Circles: Calligraphy in Zen Buddhism." Finally, on **Thursday, February 14**, from **5-7:30 p.m.** there will be a **gallery talk and reception** at **White Lotus Gallery** (767 Willamette Street) with the artist entitled "Brushmind: Calligraphy by Kazuaki Tanahashi."

Tanahashi, a native of Japan, now lives in California. He has taught and exhibited his works internationally. His Eugene visit is co-sponsored by the Eugene Zendo, the Oregon Humanities Center, the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, and Religious Studies. (Please see individual calendar entries for more information.)

Schneider

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ever, the distribution of the impacts of climate change will be uneven, with the most severe effects being experienced in poorer, warmer places; high mountainous areas; polar regions; and in "hurricane alley." People are beginning to take action on the local, regional, and even international levels, but—as Al Gore noted in his recent Nobel Prize acceptance speech—while private, individual actions can help, they are not enough. What is needed now is collective action on a global level.

Stephen Schneider will talk about how much more could be done to substantially reduce the magnitude of the risks associated with global warming if only we can summon the political will to take decisive action—soon.

Schneider is the founder and editor of the interdisciplinary journal, *Climatic Change*. He is editor-in-chief of the *Encyclopedia of Climate and Weather* and author of *The Genesis Strategy: Climate*



Kazuaki Tanahashi, *Miracles of Each Moment*, white on black, original one-stroke circle; acrylic on canvas, scroll (30" x 36") 2001.

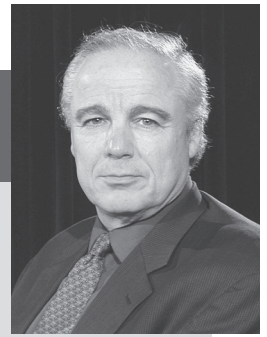
and Global Survival; The Coevolution of Climate and Life; Global Warming: Are We Entering the Greenhouse Century? and Laboratory Earth: The Planetary Gamble We Can't Afford to Lose.

In 1992 Schneider received a MacArthur Fellowship for his ability to integrate and interpret the results of global climate research through public lectures, seminars, classroom teaching, environmental assessment committees, media appearances, Congressional testimony, and research collaboration with colleagues. He was elected to membership in the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in April 2002. Currently, he is actively involved with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, or for disability accommodations (which must be made by February 26), please call (541) 346-3934.

OHC Director's Report

by *Steven Shankman*



In my Director's Report of a year ago, I talked about the UNESCO Chair in Transcultural Studies, Interreligious Dialogue, and Peace that was about to be established at the University of Oregon. President Frohnmayer counter-signed the agreement—which had been signed by the Secretary General of UNESCO—on June 1, 2007. The Chair is now in place, the first in the United States in UNESCO's Intercultural Dialogue Program. The plan was to house the Chair at first in the Humanities Center, and then to found a new Center around the Chair. I am very grateful for the support of the central administration, which has moved very quickly and enthusiastically with the plan to establish a new UNESCO center for intercultural dialogue and peace. It will be up and running by September 1, 2008, and I will be directing it.

This means that as of September 1 of the coming year there will be new leadership at the Oregon Humanities Center. An internal search for a new Director will begin this quarter. I have been privileged to serve as Director since 1994. With your help, with the support of the extraordinary OHC staff, with the central administration's support, and with the help of our two boards—the faculty Advisory Board and our Board of Visitors—we have accomplished a great deal.

We have more than doubled the size of the Center's endowment, rendering us much less dependent on the vagaries of state support for our research and teaching fellowships, our lectures and events, and our day-to-day operating expenses. We are especially grateful for the newly endowed Ernest G. Moll Faculty Research Fellowship in Literary Studies; the Directorship Endowment; and our steadily-growing Endowment for Public Outreach in the Arts, Sciences, and Humanities.

We are seen as a real resource for the community and the state, beyond the groves of academe. Our public lectures attract large audiences. We have established a presence in the wider community through our weekly television show "UO Today," which—along with many of our lectures—is now available in digital form anywhere in the world via the web. We have just completed a video documentary history of the University of Oregon, which will be available on three DVDs, and which is required viewing for those leading tours of our campus.

We established the Coleman-Guitteau Teaching-and-Research Fellowship. This innovative fellowship encourages faculty to take their scholarship in exciting,

unpredictable directions. It gives faculty the opportunity to offer a new course one quarter followed by a term in which they are asked to research—with the help of their undergraduate students from the previous quarter—some of the promising topics and questions that emerged from their teaching of the course.

In our efforts to increase the Center's—and the University's—engagement with the community, we have pledged to support one faculty member per year to be trained to teach humanities courses as part of the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program. So far we have trained two faculty members. The first UO Inside-Out course—consisting of fifteen UO students and fifteen inmates—was taught during spring term 2007 at the Oregon State Penitentiary, the state's maximum-security facility. Another course will be taught this coming spring.

The Center has tried to respond to international crises with appropriate programming. In the wake of the (in part) religiously inspired terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the Center initiated a series of symposia on religion and violence. We are planning a symposium on climate change for spring of 2009 entitled "Ethics, Religion, and the Environment."

It is my belief that a vigorous Humanities Center should not only support scholars of the humanities, but it should also stimulate the production of new works of art. To this end, through the generosity of the Bowerman family, the Humanities Center has commissioned a musical composition about the life of legendary track coach Bill Bowerman that will debut this summer during the Olympic trials as part of the Oregon Bach Festival. "Man of Oregon," a symphonic biography composed by UO music graduate Rebecca Oswald, will premier as part of a gala event honoring Bill Bowerman on July 1 in the Silva Concert Hall at the Hult Center. I hope to see you there!

Let me conclude by thanking the extraordinary staff of the Oregon Humanities Center, and particularly Associate Director Julia Heydon. As Director, I have continued to teach and to fulfill my obligations as a faculty member of both the English and Classics Departments. The Associate Director serves the Center full time, and Julia has done so with truly exceptional dedication and with great effectiveness. I have complete confidence in Julia's ability to assist—with your help—in crucial ways during this period of transition in the leadership of the Center.



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Upcoming W.I.P.s

We continue our series of **work-in-progress** talks by University of Oregon faculty and graduate students on their current or recent research on **Fridays at noon** in the Humanities Center Conference Room, **159 PLC**. Brown-bag lunches are welcome!

January 25

Mark Johnson, philosophy, speaking on "The Natural Sources of Morality."

February 15

Robin Zebrowski, graduate fellow, philosophy, speaking on "We Are Plastic: Human Variability and the Myth of the Standard Body."

March 7

Kelly Sultzbach, graduate fellow, English, speaking on "Nature Replies in a Modern Voice: The Relationship between Humans and the Environment in the Work of E.M. Forster, Virginia Woolf, & W.H. Auden."

All faculty and graduate students are encouraged to attend. The conference room seats eighteen; early arrival is recommended.

The University of Oregon is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To arrange disability accommodations for Humanities Center events or to obtain this newsletter in an alternative format, call 541-346-3934.

Inside-Out Teacher Training Opportunity

The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, an innovative pedagogical and community-based service program begun at Temple University in 1997, was established to create a dynamic partnership between institutions

of higher learning and correctional systems. The program is now being used throughout the country. On **Friday, February 1 at noon** in the **Knight Library Browsing Room, Melissa Crabbe**, Assistant National Director of Inside-Out, will speak with UO faculty and upper-division Honors College students who are interested in learning more about the program.

During 2006-07, to encourage humanities faculty to consider teaching in the Inside-Out Program, the OHC began offering a \$2,000 scholarship each year, providing airfare and registration for one faculty participant to take the week-long training in Philadelphia.

UO sociology professor Ellen Scott received the first OHC scholarship, and during spring 2007 took the Inside-Out training, which she later described as "an amazing, life-changing experience."

"The images still make me weep, but the hope generated, and humanity revealed, under the most impossible of conditions, helped to create the desire in me to be a part of this program. Thank you for this opportunity. I am truly humbled."

Besides adding significantly to her knowledge about the criminal justice system, Scott says the training allowed her to reflect intensively upon her assumptions about pedagogy, knowledge, theory, group dynamics, and student-teacher interactions in completely new and astonishing ways.

**—Ellen Scott,
Sociology**

Two Instructor Training Institutes will be offered this summer in the Philadelphia area: July 7-13 and August 4-10. Anyone who is interested in learning more about the Inside-Out Program is encouraged to attend the February 1st informational session. This event is open to the public.