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Faculty & Staff Newsletter

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Professor Roy Rotheim has spent more than 20 years studying John Maynard Keynes. He'll share the results of his research when he gives the Moseley Lecture Feb. 25. [Story](#)



Filene Concert Series Artist Sara Davis Buechner will perform March 5 on campus with cellist Ann Alton. [Story](#)



Robert Weirich, Sterne Virtuoso Artist, will present a piano recital March 6 in Filene Recital Hall. [Story](#)

Welcome -- The Skidmore *Intercom* Faculty-Staff Newsletter is a production of the Office of College Relations. All members of the campus community are invited to submit story ideas or news items, using the contact information provided below. Department chairs and office directors are asked to please print a copy of this document to share with colleagues who do not have regular access to a computer.

We hope you enjoy this electronic newsletter and encourage you to share your impressions via email or telephone.

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Vol. 3, No. 7 - February 24, 2004**Rotheim to Present Moseley Lecture**

For more than two decades, Professor of Economics Roy Rotheim has focused on the work of the British economist John Maynard Keynes. Rotheim has made a number of research/lecture visits to England, and completed one book and a number of articles on Keynes, who many consider to be the most influential economist of the 20th century.

On Wednesday, Feb. 25, Rotheim will share the results of his work with the Skidmore community when he delivers this year's Edwin M. Moseley Faculty Research lecture - a highlight of the academic calendar. [Read more about it.](#)

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Vol. 3, No. 7 - February 24, 2004**Mellon Foundation Grant to Enrich Faculty Career Options**

Skidmore, together with three other upstate New York educational institutions — Union and Hamilton colleges and Colgate University — will share a \$600,000 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support faculty career enhancement.

Over the next two to three years the grant will help fund an assortment of new initiatives, including an innovative process for post-tenure faculty development to assist faculty at mid-career with their teaching and research; a program of faculty exchanges among the schools in the Mellon grant group; and the chance to implement other collaborative programs, including a speakers bureau.

In announcing the grant, Skidmore President Philip A. Glotzbach said, "This generous grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation offers an exciting opportunity to address the challenges faculty encounter as they seek career fulfillment. My colleagues at the other colleges and I are very pleased to be able to forge new collaborative links and to launch promising new programs in the service of maximizing the effectiveness of our faculties."

The \$600,000 grant follows an \$80,000 Mellon Foundation gift awarded in 2002. The earlier grant funded a yearlong study by the four schools in which a number of common concerns were identified. The new grant will help fund some of the key goals arising from that study, including planning and support for research and teaching after faculty receive tenure, which is typically at the start of their seventh year at a college or university.

The grant will also fund a faculty exchange initiative designed to revitalize faculty by allowing them exposure to a different set of colleagues and a different academic and institutional culture. Each year, two faculty members from each of the four schools will be able to teach a course at one of the other schools. Visiting faculty will offer new perspectives and perhaps a new course to the host institution, and will be expected to share their experiences with their home school upon returning.

Additionally, funds will be available for smaller-scale collaborations among the campuses, such as a four-college speakers bureau, seminars, and conferences.

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Vol. 3, No. 7 - February 24, 2004**Harder Lecture Scheduled March 10**

Samuel C. Scott, chairman, president, and chief operating officer of Corn Products International, Inc., will deliver the annual F. William Harder Lecture on campus this spring. Titled "The Global Business Environment: A Firsthand Report," the talk will begin at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 10, in Gannett Auditorium, Palamountain Hall. A reception will follow. Admission is free and open to the public.

Prior to joining Corn Products International, Scott had been vice president of CPC International and president of CPC's worldwide corn-refining business. He joined CPC in 1973 and held several positions with increasing responsibility.

Scott serves on the boards of Motorola, Inc., where he is chairman of the compensation committee, and the Bank of New York. In addition, he sits on the board of directors of ACCION USA, INROADS Chicago, and the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. He is also a trustee of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

An alumnus of Fairleigh Dickinson University of Teaneck, N.J., Scott earned a bachelor's degree in engineering in 1966 and a master's degree in business administration in 1973. He is a native of Jersey City, N.J., and now resides in Chicago.

The College's annual F. William Harder Lecture was inaugurated in 1985 through the generosity of F. William Harder, a Skidmore parent who served as trustee from 1968 to 1980. The lecture brings together students and faculty with industry leaders to explore the current business environment and the challenges that lie ahead.

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Vinci and Friends to Perform

Senior Artist-in-Residence Jan Vinci, along with a talented line-up of faculty colleagues, will perform a campus recital on Sunday, Feb. 29. Vinci, along with Mark Vinci, Charles Joseph, and Patricia Hadfield, will present an eclectic program of music that includes the world premier of a new piece by composer Hseuh-Yung Shen, who will attend the performance.

The concert gets under way at 7 p.m. in Filene Recital Hall. Admission is free. A preview of the event can be heard this Wednesday, Feb. 25, on WAMC-FM's morning *Roundtable* program. Vinci will be a studio guest on the program at about 11 a.m. WAMC is at 90.3 on the radio or can be heard online at www.wamc.org.

Luce Lecturer to Offer Illustrated Talk

"Globalization, Tourism, and the Invention of Nature in China and Taiwan," an illustrated talk by Boston University Professor of Anthropology Robert P. Weller, gets under way at 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, in Gannett Auditorium of Palamountain Hall. Admission is free and open to the public.

Weller received his Ph.D. in anthropology from Johns Hopkins University. He is the author of many scholarly articles and books, including *Unities and Diversities in Chinese Religion* (1987); *Resistance, Chaos and Control in China: Taiping Rebels, Taiwanese Ghosts and Tiananmen* (1994); *Unruly Gods: Divinity and Society in China* (editor, with Meir Shahar; 1996); and *Alternate Civilities: Chinese Culture and the Prospects for Democracy* (1999). His most recent research deals with nature tourism in China and Taiwan and issues of globalization.

Part of the Luce Guest Speakers Series at the College, the lecture was coordinated by Adam Chau, Luce Assistant Professor of Asian Studies. Co-sponsors are the Environmental Studies Program and the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work.

Alumnus to Share View of the World

Alumnus Paul Hockenos '85, an author and journalist living in Berlin, will discuss "Diaspora Activism and the Balkan Wars" and will read from his new book, *Homeland Calling: Exile Patriotism and the Balkan Wars* (2003, Cornell University Press) when he returns to the campus in March.

His talk, scheduled at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 3, will be in Emerson Auditorium of Palamountain Hall. Admission is free and open to the public. To read more about Hockenos and his work, visit [Scope online](#).

In the News

Gerald Erchak, professor of anthropology, was a commentator on *Taboo 2* on Jan. 26. The episode, airing on National Geographic TV, was titled "Blood Bonds."

Mary Zeiss Stange, associate professor of women's studies and religion, had an essay titled "Society's Sex-Criminal Dilemma" published in the Feb. 22 issue of *The Los Angeles Times*. ([Read the essay](#)) In addition, she is the author of "When Animals Stalk Humans, Hunters Should Shoot Back" published in the Feb. 16 issue of *USA Today*. ([Read the essay](#))

Stern, Fulbright Award-Winning Author, to Give Reading

Professor of English Steve Stern will read from his work beginning at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 2, in Davis Auditorium of Palamountain Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

Skidmore's English Department is hosting the reading as a celebration of Stern's return to campus following an extended leave and in recognition of his winning a Fulbright Award for the fall 2004 semester. Stern will spend the fall at Bar Ilan University in Tel Aviv, Israel, teaching graduate students in the school's newly inaugurated creative writing in English program.

Bar Ilan invited Stern to teach following his participation in a conference at the university last spring. The conference was energizing, he explained. "There was the collective sense of some bold experiment, as if, in such a troubled and even perilous context, the literary enterprise might be a redemptive activity... It was as humbling as it was thrilling to encounter at Bar Ilan the complex energies of the Israeli students and writers, and their acute awareness of their charged moment in history," he said.

Stern characterizes his fiction as "radical nostalgia," adding, "I often invoke elements of folklore in order to subvert finite reality with the timelessness of myth; I try to revive the essence of traditional communities in the hope of infecting deracinated contemporary landscapes with a lost integrity."

Stern has written short story collections, novellas, and several books for children. His works include *The Wedding Jester* (1999), *Lazar Malkin Enters Heaven* (1986), and *Isaac and the Undertaker's Daughter* (1983), all story collections; *Harry Kaplan's Adventures Underground* (1991) and *The Moon & Ruben Shein* (1984), novels; *A Plague of Dreamers* (1994), novellas; and *Hershel and the Beast* (1987) and *Mickey and the Golem* (1986), children's books. His forthcoming novel is titled *The Angel of Forgetfulness*, due next year from Viking Penguin.

His stories have been included in the *O. Henry Prize Anthology*, *Pushcart Prize Anthology*, and the *Oxford Book of Jewish Stories*, among others.

In addition to the Fulbright, Stern's honors include the National Jewish Book Award (2000), the Pushcart Prize (1997 and 1999), the Pushcart Writer's Choice Award (1984), and several fellowships to the MacDowell Colony. In 2002, Stern was Moss Professor of Excellence in Literature at the University of Memphis.

Stern joined the Skidmore faculty in 1988.

Musical Weekend Planned at Filene Recital Hall

A rich array of music will be available on campus during the first weekend of March, with special events scheduled Friday through Sunday, March 5 through 7. The Filene Concert Artists Series will present performances March 5 and 7, and a Sterne Virtuoso Series Concert is planned for March 6.

At 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 5, pianist Sara Davis Buechner, a Filene Concert Series artist, and cellist Ann Alton will present a program of works by Ranjbaran, Martinu, Piazzolla and Rachmaninoff. Kristin Bacchocchi-Stewart will provide flute accompaniment. At 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 6, pianist Robert Weirich will present Copland's Piano Fantasy, Schumann's *Davidsbündlertänze*, and the Fantasy in F sharp minor by CPE Bach. At 3 p.m. Sunday March 7, "Witches, Watchers, & Wives: An Afternoon with Wagner's Women," will feature performances by Wagnerian mezzo-soprano Carla Rae Cook, Filene Concert Series artist, accompanied by pianist Carrie Ann Matheson. Thomas Denny, associate professor of music, will provide dramatic and historical commentary.

All events will take place in Filene Recital Hall. Admission on Friday and Sunday is free; tickets to the Saturday event (available at the door) are \$5 for the general public and \$2 for students and senior citizens.

Background on March 5 recital

A participant in many of the world's most prestigious international piano competitions — Reine Elisabeth of Belgium, Leeds, Salzburg, Sydney and Vienna — Sara Davis Buechner established her early career by winning the gold medal of the 1984 Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition in Salt Lake City, Utah, and was bronze medalist at the 1986 Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition in Moscow.

With an active repertoire of nearly 100 piano concertos ranging from Bach to Wuorinen, she has appeared as soloist with America's most prominent orchestras: the New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Saint Louis and San Francisco symphony orchestras; and abroad with the Japan Philharmonic, the BBC Philharmonic, Kuopio (Finland) Philharmonic, and the Slovak Philharmonic, among others. She was a featured artist at the Piano 2000 gala concerts in the Kennedy Center with the National Symphony, and recently made her debut at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival. In addition to her frequent North American concert appearances and radio broadcasts, she tours widely throughout the Far East on a yearly basis.

In 2003 Buechner was appointed assistant professor of piano at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver.

Called an "outstanding artist" by the *Albany Times Union*, Alton has appeared as an orchestra soloist and in recital throughout the United States and Europe. She has been featured on American and German public television as well as National Public Radio. Alton has won awards from the National Federation of Music Clubs, the Koussevitsky Foundation, the National Arts Club, the National Music Teachers Association, and the Wooley Foundation. She is a member of Tritonis and is principal cellist of the Lake Placid Sinfonietta. Her recordings are available on the VOX and Albany labels.

Alton received bachelor's and master's degrees in music at the Juilliard School, and a D.M.A. from the Manhattan School of Music. In addition to Skidmore, she also teaches at the Manhattan School of Music and the Juilliard Pre-College Division. She is active as an adjudicator and clinician, and is a performing faculty member for the Killington Festival and the Villars International Festival.

Bacchocchi-Stewart is on the faculty of Schenectady County Community College, where she teaches flute and music fundamental classes. Her awards include second prize at the 2002 National Flute Association's Young Artist Competition and first prize at the 2000 NFA Master Class Performers Competition. She also is a member of Tritonis and performs with the Albany Symphony Orchestra and the Schenectady County Community College faculty Woodwind Quintet.

Bacchocchi-Stewart earned a B.M. degree at Ithaca College and an M.M. degree at the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music.

Background on Sterne Virtuoso Artist

Robert Weirich is active as a pianist, teacher, author, composer, and artistic director. As a pianist he has performed in musical centers throughout the country, including Alice Tully Hall, the Kennedy Center, and such summer festivals as Tanglewood, Ravinia, and Marlboro. He received a solo recitalist fellowship from the National Endowment of the Arts in 1990 and was one of the first winners of the Pope Foundation Music Awards in 1992.

In 1998 Weirich joined the faculty of the Conservatory of Music at the University of Missouri in Kansas City, where he holds the Jack Strandberg Missouri Professor of Piano. Last year he became president of the College Music Society, a professional organization of nearly 9,000 college, conservatory, and university music teachers. UMKC recently awarded him a Trustees' Faculty Fellowship, the N.T. Veatch Prize for distinguished research and creative activity, and in 2003, he received the first Murial McBrien Kaufmann Artistry/Scholarship Award.

Although fairly new to composition, Weirich has seen several of his works receive multiple performances. In 1996 the Syracuse Society for New Music and WCNY-FM commissioned his *A Flurry of Fanfares for Music* in celebration of their joint 25th anniversaries. In 1998, three new works received their premieres and his collection for student pianists, *A Child's Piano Book*, will be published by Carl Fischer, Inc.

An avid chamber musician, Weirich was artistic director of the Skaneateles Festival in New York's Finger Lakes District from 1991 to 1999. Under his leadership the festival received three Adventurous Programming Awards from ASCAP and Chamber Music America. The festival also earned other honors during his tenure, including a SAMMY award (voted by his peers) from the Syracuse Area Music Awards program.

Weirich earned a D.M.A. degree in 1981 from Yale University and received a distinguished alumnus award from Yale in 1989.

Background on Wagner's Women

Some of Wagner's best-known female characters will come alive for the audience during the March 7 event, which will feature excerpts from the composer's "Ring" cycle: *Die Walküre*, *Das Rheingold*, and *Götterdämmerung*; along with *Tristan und Isolde* and *Parsifal*.

Carla Rae Cook began performing Wagnerian roles with the Metropolitan Opera and was with the Seattle Opera when she started to perform leading Wagner roles. She has sung Waltraute, Flosshilde, and Siegrune in Seattle's "Ring" cycle productions. After singing the role of Venus in a new production of *Tannhäuser* with the Bremen Opera conducted by Pinchas Steinberg, she was hailed as "one of the world's great upcoming Wagnerians."

Cook performed Rosswisse in Wagner's *Die Walküre* performed by the San Francisco Opera, and role of Kundry in *Parsifal* with the Chicago Lyric Opera. She recently performed with Plácido Domingo in the Washington Opera's presentation of *Die Walküre*. Cook has appeared with many of the world's major orchestras and conductors, as well as on public radio and TV. She has performed oratorio and song cycle throughout the world.

A native of Salt Lake City, Cook began her music career at the age of five with piano lessons and youth choir. She holds a B.M. degree from the University of Utah, and a M.M. degree in vocal performance from Boston University. She has done post-graduate study at the Manhattan School of Music and received full scholarships to study at the Tanglewood Music Center, the Music Academy of the West, and the Zurich Opera Studios.

Cook currently is the artistic director of the opera program at George Mason University and also teaches privately.

Carrie-Ann Matheson, currently assistant conductor at the Metropolitan Opera, also is on the coaching staff of the company's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. She has collaborated with some of the world's most prominent artists, including Marilyn Horne, and made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2000, joining soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian in the Marilyn Horne Foundation's New York Recital.

This summer, Matheson will join the International Vocal Arts Institute for its summer festival in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

SEFCU Elects Leadership

The Skidmore Employees Federal Credit Union elected officers and committee members at its Feb. 18 annual meeting.

New officers are Barbara Opitz, president; David Eyman, vice president; Erik Smith, treasurer; Denise Hughes, secretary; and Melody Beecroft-Durgin, Leslie Mecham, and Phylise Banner, board members. Michael Arnush was elected security officer. New members of the Credit Committee are Daniel Matrazzo, Karen Garnsey, and Katri Oska. Supervisory Committee members elected were Roberta Chramoff and Lorraine Bittel.

Door prizes winners were Stanley McGaughey, David Eyman, and Michael Hughes.

Currently SEFCU membership totals 992 and assets are \$6.97 million. Membership is open to all members of the Skidmore community. [Click here for information](#) about SEFCU services and membership.

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Faculty-Staff Activities

Michael Arnush, associate professor of classics; **John Brueggeman**, associate dean of faculty development; **Charles Joseph**, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty; **Raymond Rodrigues**, director of assessment; and **Gordon Thompson**, associate professor of music; led a case study discussion at the annual Association of American Colleges and University meeting Jan. 21-24. The case was titled "Major Curriculum Revision in a Time of Fiscal Constraints."

Ruth Copans, college and special collections librarian, visited Swarthmore College to lecture about an exhibition that she designed. Her talk, "Ubiquitous Cycle: Book Artists Look Back," was presented Feb. 17. She discussed the relationship between traditional book binding techniques and contemporary book artist interpretations. The exhibition, "Binding Structures: Book Artists Look Back," on view through Feb. 29 at Swarthmore's McCabe Library, features artistic responses to traditional bookbinding techniques from around the world, including papyrus, palm leaf, Coptic, scrolls, spirals and library bindings. Original examples of bookbinding were juxtaposed with their contemporary spin-offs. The Associates of Swarthmore College Library sponsored the exhibition and gallery talk

Susan Zappen, associate college librarian for collections, moderated "Totally Virtual: Libraries, Librarians, and Information from a Distance," a program sponsored by the Capital District Library Council's Continuing Education and Coordinated Collection Development Committees, Oct. 20. On Nov. 5 she presented a paper titled "Déjà vu: Inflated Prices and Deflated Budgets," at the 23rd annual Charleston Conference pre-conference, Serials Management. She presented a workshop, Copyright Issues for Students and Educators, twice for school administrators Nov. 14 at the Warren-Saratoga-Washington-Hamilton-Essex BOCES Model Schools Program, "Technology - A Tool for Learning."

Publications

Virginia Murphy-Berman, visiting professor of psychology, and **John Berman**, professor of psychology, are editors of *Cross-Cultural Differences in Perspectives on the Self* (2003, Lincoln, Neb.: University of Nebraska Press).

Terry Diggory, Ross Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies and chair, Department of English, is the author of "What Abstract Art Means in *Pull My Daisy*" in the collection of original essays, *Reconstructing the Beats*, edited by Jennie Skerl (2004, New York: Palgrave/Macmillan). Skerl, a former Skidmore English faculty member, currently is association dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at West Chester University in Pennsylvania.

Beth Gershuny, assistant professor of psychology, is a co-author of the following articles, all of which have accepted for publication: "Relation Between Trauma and Psychopathology: Mediating Roles of Dissociation and Fears About Death and Control," with L. Najavits, P.K. Wood, and M. Heppner, to appear in *Journal of Trauma and Dissociation*; "The Relationship Between Obsessive-Compulsive and Post-traumatic Stress Symptoms in Clinical and Non-Clinical Samples," with J.D. Huppert, J.S. Moser, D.S. Riggs, M. Spokas, J. Filip, G. Hajcak, H. Parker, L. Baer, and E.B. Foa, to appear in *Journal of Anxiety Disorders*; and "Symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Death Anxiety in Person with Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Medication Adherence Difficulties," with S.A. Safren, and E. Hendriksen, to appear in *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*.

Grant Gutheil, assistant professor of psychology, is co-author (with P. Bloom, N. Valderrama, and R.R. Freedman) of "The Role of Historical Intuition in Children's and Adults' Naming of Artifacts," published in *Cognition*, Vol. 91, No. 1, 2004.

Penny Jolly, Kenan Professor of Art History, is the author of "Art for Domestic Interiors: Models, Cautionary Tales, and Delights" in *Method and Metaphor: Selected Works from the Seena and Arnold Davis Old Master Collection*, edited by Rachel Seligman (2004, Schenectady, N.Y.: Union College).

Christine Page, associate professor of management and business, has two new publications: "If Only I Hadn't Smoked: The Impact of Counterfactual Thinking on a Smoking Related Behavior," (co-written with Patricia Colby), published in *Psychology and Marketing*, Vol. 20, Nov. 2003; and "Time and Distance: Asymmetries in Consumer Trip Knowledge and Judgments" (co-written with Yong-Soon Kang and Paul Herr), published in the *Journal of Consumer Research*, Vol. 30, December 2003.

Pushkala Prasad, Zankel Professor of Management for Liberal Arts Students, is co-author (with Charlotte Echnner) of "The Context of Third-World Tourism Marketing," published in *Annals of Tourism Research*, Vol. 30, 2003. In addition, Prasad wrote a chapter titled "The Return of the Native: Organizational Discourses and the Legacy of the Ethnographic Imagination" for *Postcolonial Theory and Organizational Analysis: A Critical Engagement*, edited by Prasad (2003, New York: Palgrave/Macmillan).

Prasad has accepted an invitation to serve a three-year term on the editorial board of the *Journal of Management Studies*, the premier European management journal.

Mary Zeiss Stange, associate professor of women's studies and religion, has an essay, "No More Raping: When Some Women are Armed, Are All of Us Safer?", in the February issue of *The Women's Review of Books*, a special issue with the theme "Women, War, and Peace."

Mark Youndt, assistant professor of management and business, is a co-author of the following articles: "Strategic positioning, human capital, and performance in service organizations: A customer service approach," with B.D. Skaggs, published in *Strategic Management Journal*, Vol. 25, 2004; "Intellectual capital profiles: An examination of investments and returns," with M. Subramaniam and S.A. Snell, to appear in *Journal of Management Studies*, Vol. 41, No. 2, 2004; and "Human resource management, intellectual capital, and organizational performance," with S.A. Snell, forthcoming in *Journal of Managerial Issues*.

In addition, Youndt and department colleagues **Elzbieta Lepkowska-White**, assistant professor of management and business, and **Christine Page**, associate professor of management and business, are the authors of "Web image and young consumers: An empirical investigation of factors influencing perceptions on online companies," to appear in *Journal of Internet Commerce*, Vol. 3, No. 2.

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