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Collaborative researchers Michael Ennis-McMillan, Karen Kellogg, Allison Stafford '06, and Erin Black '06 take a break during summer research on the Saratoga Lake watershed. <u>Story</u>



"Peas, Potatoes, Carrots, 1994-1996" is part of *America Starts Here*, an exhibition of works by Kate Ericson and Mel Ziegler on view this fall at the Tang Museum. The Tang's fifth anniversary celebration kicks off Oct. 29. <u>Story</u>

**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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#### \$200K Grant to Support ES Water Resources Initiative

A \$200,000 grant from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations will support the development of a Water Resources Initiative (WRI) administered by Skidmore's Environmental Studies Program. The WRI will provide an ongoing focus for student research and faculty scholarship while offering new opportunities for interdisciplinary study and collaboration.

ES Director Karen Kellogg explained that the WRI will help to ensure "true interdisciplinary immersion" for ES students. "The WRI allows us to concentrate on a specific issue and explore the issue from multiple, interrelated perspectives - for example, how do political, economic, historic, social, cultural, and natural sciences views relate and influence how we use our water resources," she said.

In addition, the WRI will promote long-term research and analysis. An important component of this goal is ES 375, *Case Studies in Environmental Sustainability*, the capstone course for ES majors. "The heart of the course for the next several years will be community-based research projects involving the Saratoga Lake watershed," said Kellogg. This research is a common thread that carries through other courses, collaborative research, student independent study, and faculty research, she added.

As an example of the research that is at the heart of WRI, Kellogg cited the work that she and others pursued this past summer. She, Michael Ennis-McMillan, associate professor of anthropology, and students Allison Stafford and Erin Black, both Class of '06, worked collaboratively on a stakeholder analysis of Saratoga Springs water use. The team conducted interviews with 23 different individuals who are interested in the future of the city's water resources. Using ethnographic research methods, the team is analyzing the concerns of four key groups: business and industry, government, civic organizations, and residents. They plan to publish the results in an academic/scientific journal (the students will receive co-author credit) and to perhaps make them available to the public.

Stafford said she appreciated receiving hands-on exposure to a real-world issue over the summer and was surprised to see the impact of politics on what she had thought was primarily an environmental issue. The top concern mentioned by respondents was the impact of development on water use, she added.

Currently a second-semester junior who transferred to Skidmore in her sophomore year, Stafford is pursing a double major in theater and ES with a concentration in geosciences and a focus on hydrology.

This semester Stafford is continuing independent study on the project. She and Black will summarize their work in an upcoming meeting with ES junior majors, to help them begin planning their senior-year capstone projects. "Hopefully, our work will spark questions that the juniors will decide to research," said Stafford. "That way, the juniors will learn from the seniors, and new projects will build on earlier ones," she added. The WRI's emphasis on collaboration and interdisciplinary study helps to foster mentoring among students, according to Kellogg.

Besides integrating curriculum and collaborative research, the WRI also emphasizes civic engagement. Kellogg envisions long-term partnerships with such groups as the Friends of the Kayaderosseras and Siena College (which is hopeful of engaging Skidmore in collaborations with its Environmental Science and Biology departments). "It would be great to have Skidmore recognized as the hub that unites organizations concerned with local water use, as well as other conservation issues. Students will be getting to know the community during their first-year courses and more intimately as they progress through the major," according to Kellogg.

The Arthur Vining Davis funds also will support guest speakers and external workshop leaders for more in-depth exploration of water-related issues. In addition, the grant will provide funds for faculty to develop comparative national/international studies to place local research in a global context. "We are so grateful to the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations for making this exciting initiative possible for our students, faculty, and community," said Kellogg.

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## Irish novelist John Banville to Deliver Steloff Lecture



The great Irish novelist and man of letters John Banville will deliver the annual Frances Steloff Lecture at Skidmore College at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, in Gannett Auditorium of Palamountain Hall.

Titled "Fiction and the Dream," the event is free and open to the public. Banville will receive an honorary doctorate from the College prior to the lecture.

Regarded as the most stylistically inventive and daring of contemporary Irish writers, Banville is a philosophical novelist concerned with the

nature of perception, the conflict between imagination and reality, and the unstable nature of identity.

Born in Wexford, Ireland, in 1945, Banville was literary editor of the *Irish Times* between 1988 and 1999. He is a frequent contributor to *The New York Review of Books* and has written more than a dozen books of fiction, the first of which was *Long Lankin*, a collection of short stories published in 1970, followed by *Nightspawn* (1971) and *Birchwood* (1973), both novels.

Banville's fictional portrait of the 15th-century Polish astronomer *Dr. Copernicus* (1976) won the James Tait Black Memorial Prize (for fiction) and was the first in a series of books exploring the lives of eminent scientists and scientific ideas. The second novel in the series, *Kepler* (1981), was about the 16th-century German astronomer and won the Guardian Fiction Prize. *The Newton Letter: An Interlude* (1982) is the story of an academic who is writing a book about the mathematician Sir Isaac Newton. *Mefisto* (1986) explores the world of numbers in a reworking of *Dr. Faustus*.

The Book of Evidence (1989), which won the Guinness Peat Aviation Book Award and was short listed for the Booker Prize for Fiction, *Ghosts* (1993), and *Athena* (1995) form a loose trilogy of novels narrated by Freddie Montgomery, a convicted murderer. The central character of Banville's 1997 novel, *The Untouchable*, Victor Maskell, is based on the art historian and spy Anthony Blunt.

Banville's most recent books are the novels *Eclipse* (2000) and *Shroud* (2002), as well as a nonfiction work entitled *Prague Pictures: Portrait of a City* (2003), which is a personal evocation of the magical European city.

His latest book is *The Sea* (2005), which is described by Adam Phillips in an August 2005 issue of *The London Review of Books* as "masterful" and "a characteristically dazzling and brilliant novel by the one writer who is capable of producing such a work." *The Sea* has been nominated for a 2005 Booker Prize, which *The New York Times* has called "perhaps the most distinguished prize for literary fiction in the English-speaking world." This year's prizewinner will be named Monday, Oct. 10.

Skidmore's annual Steloff Lecture was established in 1967 by Frances Steloff, a native of Saratoga Springs who became a well-known patron of writers and founded the Gotham Book Mart in New York City. She endowed the lecture series as a way to bring outstanding literary and artistic talent to the College.

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#### Tang Museum to Launch Fifth Anniversary Year

Since opening in October 2000, the Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery has attracted national and regional notice for its striking architecture, bold and often experimental exhibitions, award-winning catalogues and publications, and popular outreach and education programs.

Designed to graft the College's signature zest for interdisciplinary learning onto its traditional strength in the arts, the museum's mission is to develop exhibitions and public programs that are "both nationally noteworthy and directly relevant to the Skidmore education," according to John Weber, Dayton Director of the Tang.

In its first five years, the museum has produced nearly 70 exhibitions-many cross-disciplinary and co-curated with Skidmore faculty-and received more than 188,000 visitors, including 8,000 schoolchildren. Using the Tang as both a workshop and a catalyst for innovative learning, the museum's curatorial staff and Skidmore faculty are plumbing the potential of visual objects to stimulate creative interplay among various academic disciplines.

Throughout the next year, the Tang will mark its fifth anniversary with an array of celebrations, exhibitions, and public events including two major art symposia set for fall 2005 and spring 2006. The celebratory year will kick off Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 29-30, with a symposium on the public role of art, featuring eminent contemporary artists whose work has enlivened the museum's first five years. (Tickets are required to attend symposium events; for reservation information, e-mail tang@skidmore.edu).

Symposium sessions will begin with a gallery discussion (9:30 a.m.) from ceramic artist Kathy Butterly, whose small, delightfully strange works in porcelain and earthenware will be on view in the museum's State Farm Mezzanine gallery in *Opener 10: Kathy Butterly: Freaks & Beauties* (Oct. 1-Dec. 30, 2005). Artist discussions will follow between Nina Katchadourian and Martin Kersels, who work in a range of media (10:15 a.m.); and multi-medium artist Nayland Blake and painter Julia Jacquette, a 1986 Skidmore graduate (11:15 a.m.).

At 2 p.m., artist Mel Ziegler will deliver a talk about the artworks produced in a 17-year collaboration with his creative partner, the late Kate Ericson. Twenty of their works will be on view in *America Starts Here: Kate Ericson and Mel Ziegler* (Oct. 1-Dec. 30, 2005), the first retrospective to recognize the couple's influential conceptual artworks.

At 2:30 p.m., art historian and critic Patricia Phillips will moderate a roundtable discussion on the topic of "Art as Public Space." Participants will include artists Blake, Jacquette, Katchadourian, Kersels, Ziegler; Tang curator Ian Berry; New York City art dealer Leslie Tonkonow (a 1974 Skidmore graduate); and Fred Wilson, an internationally recognized artist currently taking part in an extended Skidmore residency designed to explore the teaching-museum concept.

The museum will be open to the public all day Saturday, with tours of the galleries and Family Saturday activities for children and adults in the museum's Whitman Classroom. A 7-9 p.m. reception Saturday will celebrate the museum's four fall exhibitions and will feature a 7 p.m. performance by Pamela Z, a multimedia composer, performer, and sound artist whose work will be showcased in the Tang's "Elevator Music" series.

On Sunday, Oct. 30, the Tang will host an array of community activities, including a Family Sunday session on pumpkin carving as art (12:30 p.m.), and a costume contest (2 p.m.) that invites participants to come attired as a favorite artist or artwork. A program of Music for a Sunday Afternoon will begin at 4 p.m. Live music, refreshments, and hourly gallery tours will be available throughout the day.

Augmenting the fifth-year accomplishments will be the premiere of a new Tang Museum Web site (<u>www.skidmore.edu/tang</u>) on Oct. 29 and a preview of the on-going digital documentation of the Tang Collection. Supported by a Mellon Foundation grant, the project will make a significant number of the more than 4,000 artworks and objects in the Tang's collection readily available for research and curriculum use.

The anniversary year celebration will continue with a symposium (April 7-8, 2006) focused on the roles and opportunities of the college museum in the 21st century. The symposium will be organized by artist Wilson, known for mixed-media installations that juxtapose museum objects with found and made artifacts to explore complex issues of race, history, and aesthetics. With support from a Henry Luce Foundation grant, Wilson has worked for the past three years with Skidmore faculty and Tang staff to foster new avenues of museum-based education. As the culmination of Wilson's residency, "the symposium will bring together a group of the most creative, innovative college-museum staff and faculty from around the country for an exchange of practices, challenges, and visions," said Weber.

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## **Greenberg Middle East Series Continues**

This fall's series of Greenberg Middle East academic events continues Monday, Oct. 17, with a talk titled "New Thinking on the Creation of the Palestinian Refugee Problem," by Benny Morris, Ben-Gurion University scholar and author of *The Birth of the Palestinian Refugee Problem Revisited* (2004, Cambridge University Press). The lecture begins at 8 p.m. in Gannett Auditorium.

Well-known as the leading "new historian" in Israel for his research into the period surrounding Israeli independence in 1948, and in particular the origins of the Palestinian refugee problem, Morris has produced scholarly work and public discourse that have brought him acclaim as well as acrimony. Initially embraced by the Israeli left and excoriated from the right for his illusionshattering work on the founding of the State of Israel, his reception has in many venues since reversed itself, his work becoming a touchstone for many about the character of the state of Israel. His research has been praised for its thoroughness, sophistication, and appreciation of nuance, and for the avoidance of easy or angry attribution of moral responsibility even while it brings into question the various myths cherished by Israelis and Arabs alike.

A professor of history at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev since 1997, Morris received a B.A. degree in European history and philosophy from Hebrew University in Jerusalem and a Ph.D. degree in modern European history from Cambridge University.

Currently a visiting scholar at the University of Maryland, Morris has written a number of books, including *The Birth of the Palestinian Refugee Problem, 1947-1949* (1988, Cambridge UP); *1948 and After* (1990, Oxford UP); *Israel's Border Wars, 1949-1956* (1993, Oxford UP); *Righteous Victims, a History of the Arab-Zionist Conflict* (1999, Knopf); *The Road to Jerusalem* (2002, Tauris); and numerous articles in scholarly journals as well as other journals, magazines and newspapers.

## **European-American Relations to Be Topic**



International scholar Sascha Müller-Kraener will discuss "Issues in European-American Relations: How Real Is Anti-Americanism in Europe?" in a public lecture Tuesday, Oct. 18. Scheduled in Bolton Hall, room 382, the lecture will begin at 8 p.m.

Müller-Kraenner is director for Europe and North America at the Heinrich Böll Foundation, as well as head of the foundation's program on foreign and security policy. From 1998 to 2002 he was director of the foundation's office in Washington, D.C. The Heinrich Böll Foundation is associated with the political

party Alliance 90/The Greens in Germany. He is also one of the founders of and a senior adviser to Ecologic, the non-profit Center for International and European Environmental Policy in Berlin.

Müller-Kraenner serves on the advisory board of the Humboldt Institution on Transatlantic Issues and the board of the European Movement Germany, and is a member of the Working Group on Global Issues of the German Council on Foreign Relations, the German Society for the United Nations, Birdlife Germany, as well as the Indo-German Forum on International Environmental Governance.

From 1991 to 1998 Müller-Kraenner was director for international affairs of the Deutscher Naturschutzring, the umbrella organization of Germany's environmental NGOs. Before that he served as chief of staff of Kornelia Müller, a Green member of the State Parliament of Saxony.

He has received fellowships from the German Marshall Fund of the United States, the Prince of Wales' Business and the Environment Programme, and most recently was named a World Fellow at Yale University.

Müller-Kraenner has published extensively on international relations, European integration, and environmental diplomacy and the United Nation's climate-change treaty.

#### Sociology Visiting Professor Paula England on Campus this Month



Stanford University Professor Paula England will visit Skidmore Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 17 and 18, as the College's Sociology Visiting Professor this fall. She will give a public lecture titled "Gender Inequality: What's Changing? What's Not?" at 7 p.m. Oct. 17 in Davis Auditorium, Palamountain Hall.

At 7 p.m. Oct. 18, England will participate in a panel discussion titled "Hooking-Up: An Open Forum on College Relationships Today." Dean of Student Affairs Pat Oles and Annie McGlynn '06, a Skidmore sociology major, also will be panelists at the event, which is free and open to the public. The discussion will include

research gathered at Skidmore by McGlynn. The findings and their importance to Skidmore will be among the topics of discussion.

England's research and teaching deal with gender, households and families, and labor markets. She is interested in integrating sociological, economic, and feminist perspectives. She is the author of *Households, Employment, and Gender: A Social, Economic, and Demographic View* (1986, with George Farkas) and *Comparable Worth: Theories and Evidence* (1992). Her current research projects include a quantitative analysis of what causes women versus men to initiate divorces (with Liana Sayer and Paul Allison), and a qualitative analysis of conflicts among cohabiting unmarried parents (with Kathryn Edin).

A former editor of the *American Sociological Review*, England is the 1999 winner of the American Sociological Association's Jessie Bernard Award for career contributions to the study of gender. England earned a B.A. from Whitman College and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Chicago.

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### Faculty/Staff Activities

**Tracy Barlok**, campaign director, has started a two-year term as chair of District II of CASE, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, a national organization of advancement professionals in education. District II includes the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Ontario, Canada.

**Karl Broekhuizen**, recently retired vice president for business affairs and treasurer, was recognized this summer by the Saratoga Springs Rotary Club with a "Service Above Self" award for significant contributions to club and community goals.

**Denton Crocker**, professor emeritus of biology, and his wife accepted an invitation from the Veterans History Project (VHP) of the Library of Congress (LOC) to participate in the 2005 National Book Festival Sept. 24 in Washington, D.C. The Crockers had each provided the VHP with a copy of a memoir. His was of his service in a Malaria Survey Detachment during World War II, and hers, an account of the life of their oldest son, who was killed in Vietnam. The LOC, in conjunction with the National Geographic Society, has published two books that include information from their stories. *Voices of War* includes excerpts from Denton's story, and *Always a Soldier* (to be published in November) contains a chapter devoted to his wife's account. The VHP has placed the Crockers' memoirs on the web. Denton's is at <u>www.loc.gov/vets</u>, and his wife's is at <u>www.loc.gov/vets/stories/foreverasoldier</u>.

Two English Department professors, **Terry Diggory** and **Catherine Golden**, attended the annual conference of the American Literature Association May 26-29 in Boston, Mass. Diggory gave a presentation titled "The Comic Oratory of Allen Ginsberg and Kenneth Koch" during a panel on Border-Crossing Beats: Genre and Gender; and Golden spoke on "Recovering Gilman's *Unpunished:* A Product of Its Time, Prophetic of Our Time," during a panel titled Recovering Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

**Giuseppe Faustini**, professor of Italian, delivered an invited lecture on "The Study of the Italian Language and Culture in North America: Past, Present, and Future" in Albany June 6 at the New York Conference of Italian-American State Legislators.

**Roy Ginsberg**, professor of government, gave an invited talk titled "European Security and Defense Policy" Sept. 16 at the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Affairs. One of the foremost scholars in the field, Robert Keohane, professor of government at Princeton, was a respondent to the talk.

**Deb Hall**, assistant professor of art, gave an artist's talk with painter David Arsenault Sept. 30 at the Sacandaga Valley Arts Network in Wells, N.Y.

**Robert Jones**, associate professor of economics, was a co-presenter of a program on the history of Woodlawn Park June 9 at the Saratoga Springs Public Library. Other presenters included Heather Moore '08 and Mary-Jane Pelzer of the Saratoga Springs Visitor Center.

**Steven Millhauser**, professor of English, participated Sept. 29 in the Gwen Frostic Reading Series at Western Michigan University.

#### **Publications, Performances & Exhibitions**

**Joel Brown**, senior artist-in-residence, Department of Music, performed Sept. 24 at the Sandisfield, Mass., Arts Center.

An award-winning short story, "Samantha," by **Robert Boyers**, professor of English, has been selected for inclusion in *The Pushcart Prize (The Best of the Small Presses)*, fall 2005 edition. The story won the Cooper Prize when it appeared last year in *The Ontario Review*.

**Janet Galligani Casey**, visiting associate professor of English, is the author of "Diversity, Discourse, and the Working-Class Student," published in *Academe*, Vol. 91, No. 4, July-August 2005.

John Cunningham, professor of art, was one of four sculptors from the region who contributed to

the 26th annual "Contemporary Sculpture at Chesterwood" this year. The exhibition, open through Oct. 10 at the Stockbridge, Mass., summer home of Daniel Chester French, is part of a 50th anniversary celebration of the opening of the famed sculptor's estate to the public. Cunningham's sculpture, titled "Aquarius Reef," is 20 feet tall and approximately 24 feet in diameter. Once the Chesterwood exhibition concludes, "Aquarius Reef" will be on exhibit in the city of Pittsfield until October 2006.

**Gove Effinger**, professor of mathematics, is the co-author (with Ken Hicks of Ohio University and Gary Mullen of Penn State University) of a paper titled "Integers and Polynomials: Comparing the Close Cousins Z and Fq[x]," published in the Spring 2005 issue of *Mathematical Intelligencer*.

**Mark Huibregtse**, professor of mathematics, has had an article titled "An Elementary Construction of the Multigraded Hilbert Scheme of Points" accepted for publication by the *Pacific Journal of Mathematics*.

**Regina Janes**, professor of English, is the author of *Losing Our Heads: Beheadings in Literature and Culture* (2005, NYU Press).

**Jim Kennelly**, associate professor of management and business, is the author of an extended letter to the editor/essay published in the Forum section of the *Irish Echo*, Sept. 7-13, 2005. His essay reflected on the recent announcement of the IRA's cessation of armed struggle in Northern Ireland.

**Tom Lewis**, professor of English, is the author of *The Hudson: A History* (2005, Yale University Press).

**Kyle Nichols**, assistant professor of geosciences, is co-author (with P.R. Bierman, R. Finkel, and J. Larsen) of an article titled "Sediment Generation Rates for the Upper Rio Chagres Basin: Evidence from Cosmogenic 10Be" published in *The Rio Chagres: A Multidisciplinary Profile of a Tropical Watershed*, edited by R.S. Harmon, and published 2005 by Springer.

Nichols was a co-author (with L.P. Persico and P.R. Berman) on another manuscript titled "Tracking Painted Pebbles: Rates of Sediment Movement on Four Mojave Desert Piedmont Surfaces," published in 2005 by the Water Resources Research.

**Mehmet Odekon**, associate professor of economics, is the author of *The Costs of Economic Liberalization in Turkey* (2005, Lehigh University Press).

President Emeritus **David H. Porter** performed July 11 with his son and daughter-in-law, David G. Porter and Vedrana Subotic, in a program titled "The Porter Family Album" for the University of Utah's Intermezzo Chamber Music Series. *The Deseret Morning News* praised the performers and the "wonderfully diverse program."

**Paul Sattler**, associate professor of art, has his first solo show in New York City at the Gerald Peters Gallery, 24 E. 78th St. *Paul Sattler: Above, Below, and in Between* is on exhibit through Oct. 15.

**Jeff Segrave**, professor of exercise science, is the author of "The Legend of Seabiscuit," a review of the Seabiscuit exhibition at the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame from July 1, 2001 to Dec. 15, 2002. The review was published in the *Journal of Sport History*, Vol. 30.

**Linda Simon**, professor and chair, Department of English, is the author of a review of Hermione Lee's *Virginia Woolf's Nose* published in the spring 2005 issue of the journal *Biography*.

Research by **Mark Youndt**, associate professor and chair, Department of Management and Business, was cited in an article by Jessica Ruvinsky in *Stanford Social Innovation Review* (Vol. 3, No. 3, fall 2005), a new publication of the Stanford Graduate School of Business. The article is titled "Beware the Lone Genius" and may be viewed at <u>www.ssireview.com</u>.

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