NCIS at the American Historical Association 2013 Meeting

NCIS hosted a reception on January 5, 2013 at this year’s American Historical Association in New Orleans. January. NCIS member Gerit Quealy hosted the event, which was organized in order to promote NCIS’s mission and benefits to the more than thirty self-identified independent scholars who presented talks at the conference, part-time faculty, and other interested attendees. In addition to providing snacks and drinks for interested scholars, the NCIS reception also allowed for scholars to meet with and ask questions of current NCIS members in the discipline. An AHA Affiliate Society, NCIS can sponsor a panel at the annual meeting, and NCIS representatives take part in the AHA's Affiliate Information
NCIS at AHA 2013

session and a formal meeting of all AHA Affiliated Societies.

For information on representing NCIS at future AHA meetings, contact Neil Dukas at neil@dukas.org. Volunteer representatives generally take shifts in manning the information booth, help set up and strike the reception, and provide interested potential members with information about NCIS and its benefits.

Promote Your Work through Archiving

One challenge facing independent scholars is making their work accessible and easily findable online. While affiliated academics can promote and archive their articles, papers, and other work through their universities, ISs must handle this part of being a scholar alone. That’s where self-archiving comes in. Archiving, or posting, your work to established archives helps make your work more visible and available to others. The vast majority of scholarly journal publishers give authors the right to post pre-prints (articles in the proofing stage, not yet published) or post-prints (published articles) in archives or on their own websites, even if they restrict other types of reproduction. The author agreement you get from your publisher will spell out the details. SHERPA/RoMEO (http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/) helps authors find their publishers’ policies with a quick search.

Once you’ve established that you can archive your work, there are several options for doing so. The Social Science Research Network (SSRN) (http://ssrn.com/) archives work in the social sciences and some areas of the humanities, including anthropology and archeology, economics, entrepreneurship, health, leadership, legal, management, marketing, political, sustainability, English literature, philosophy, and rhetoric. SSRN is committed to open access: authors create an account and upload documents for free, and readers can download author-submitted materials for free. At the time of writing, SSRN had 215,000 authors and more than 1.3 million users worldwide, and offered nearly half a million papers.
Archiving

If you work in the hard sciences, you can archive at ArXiv (arXiv.org), run by Cornell University. Authors grant ArXiv a non-exclusive and irrevocable license to distribute their article, and upload their work for free. Like SSRN, ArXiv is committed to making research available to everyone, not just to those who have a subscription or belong to an institution with a library subscription.

There are a number of region- and topic-specific archives across the country. Some archives in the United States are the South Carolina Digital Library (http://www.scmemory.org/index.php), the Duke Medicine Digital Repository (http://medspace.mc.duke.edu:8080/vital/access/manager/Index), the Education Resources Information Center (http://www.eric.ed.gov/), and the Portal to Texas History (http://texashistory.unt.edu/). In addition, many university-owned and operated archives will archive the work of independent scholars whose articles overlap with special interests or collections held by the university.

Lists of archives appear at the Registry of Open Access Repositories (ROAR) (http://roar.eprints.org/) and OpenDOAR-The Directory of Open Access Repositories (http://www.opendoar.org/index.html). You can also archive your articles on your own website or academia.edu site.
Dear members,

I want to begin this letter with an apology for the website problems many of you have noticed. We have hired a web development company to resolve the problems and hope to have everything working properly by the time you see this. Please take a moment to log into the system, update your profile, and upload a new CV if you have not provided one within the past couple of years. If you have any difficulty, please contact me, our membership chair, or both.

As we move into a new year, it is time to evaluate what we are doing and how we are serving our members. While we believe we have come a long way in the past few months, we still want to assess what you think of what we are doing.

Two years ago, we conducted a survey asking what benefits you would like to have, ways you would like to get involved, and how we could improve our services. We implemented many of the benefits you requested. Most recently, we have board member Klara Seddon coordinating a manuscript review service. You can learn more about that in the article she wrote for this issue.

We are also in the process of shifting our payment process so members can choose whether to renew using PayPal or mail a check. Processing membership requests and renewals work much faster when the online payment system is used, but we want to accommodate those who prefer to use checks.

Keep an eye out for the member survey coming this Spring!

Our board of directors is working on a new survey, which will be sent out to you this Spring. Board member Margaret Clements is working on another survey in which she will be contacting many of you personally to talk to you about what you think of the job we are doing. Please consider speaking with her about those things that are important to you as independent scholars, because your input is what drives our vision for growth.

We have also been discussing ways we can offer support and help to reach out to the organizations important to our members. At present, we are an affiliate of AHA and sponsor a reception at their annual meetings. We would like to identify other conferences our members attend that we could do something similar. If you attend a conference regularly and would be willing to serve as our host at the conference, please let me know. While we cannot afford to do this on an unlimited basis, we could do so at a few conferences each year. As an extension of this, and to revive one of our previous practices that has lapsed into disuse, is helping sponsor conferences hosted by our affiliates. We will be reaching out to our affiliate members to try to move this forward.

As a member-driven organization, it is important to us for our members to be engaged. If you have ideas, would like to volunteer, or even if you just participate in the surveys, we want to hear from you. If you have news, publications, presentations, newly formed organizations, or articles
President's Letter

That are of interest to our membership, please take time to share those with The Independent Scholar. Our new board of directors and new officers have lots of energy and enthusiasm to help move the organization forward, and we all want to make sure we are moving it in the direction that is important to you!

Best wishes in 2013!
Lisa Perry

New Database Access

JSTOR’s new “Register & Read” allows scholars to access three files from the JSTOR archive every two weeks. The files are not downloadable, but will be displayed as images. For full details, visit http://about.jstor.org/rr.

Cambridge Journals content published in 2012 will be available for free on CJO through March 5, 2012. Registration is required. For full information, visit http://blog.journals.cambridge.org/2013/01/free-access-to-all-2012-content-on-cambridge-journals-online/.

Manuscript Critique Service

Contributed by Klara Seddon

Have you ever needed a professional opinion on a piece of writing, or a fellow scholar’s critique of your article before you submit it to a journal? Perhaps you just need that second pair of eyes to catch minor errors before publication. As part of our continued effort to expand NCIS membership benefits and services, we’ve organized a list of professional editors who are NCIS members. All are experienced at general manuscript critique, proofreading, and in-depth content editing, and are happy to offer a discount to NCIS members as part of this service. Their names and contact information in the list below.

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Affiliate News

The January 19 SDIS General Meeting featured Shirley Fishman, Resident Dramaturg at the La Jolla Playhouse, speaking on “What is a Dramaturg?” Fishman described her work in researching the subjects and themes of that theatre’s productions.

The most recent meeting of the Princeton Research Forum took place on January 22. Patricia Marks presented her research at a work-in-progress session. Titled “From Fidelismo to Independencia: Changing Ideologies among Peruvians in Spain, 1814–1820,” her talk centered on evolving colonial loyalties during the period when Spain was losing its grip on its American empire. Forthcoming events include the History Group meeting on February 15, 2013, at which they will be discussing Bernard Bailyn’s book The Peopling of British North America: an Introduction and The Barbarous Years: The Peopling of British North America: the Conflict of Civilizations, 1600-1675; and the as-yet unscheduled meeting of the Poetry Group, which is reading Yusef Komunyakaa’s Neon Vernacular. Check the PRF website at http://www.princetonresearchforum.org/ for full details.

Submitting to The Independent Scholar

TIS welcomes scholarly articles from members on any topic not to exceed 5000 words. Articles should be submitted as a Word doc or compatible file and should be formatted in Chicago (in-text author-date) style. Permissions for quotations, photos, etc., are the responsibility of the author. Articles should not have been published elsewhere previously. Send article proposals and complete articles to the TIS Editor at tis@ncis.org for consideration.

For book review suggestions, or to offer to become a reviewer, contact Book Review editor David Sonenschein at dsncis@gmail.com.

TIS also welcomes member news, including recent publications, presentations, honors, and other information. Deadlines for inclusion are February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1 of each year. Send all materials to the Editor at tis@ncis.org.
Book Reviews

Reviewed by Mona Berman

Alka Hingorani’s Making Faces: Self and Image Creation in a Himalayan Valley examines the changing relationships between artist and object, artist and society, and object and society. The book focuses on the creation and significance of icons produced by itinerant artisans in the context a small group of villages in an isolated Himachal Pradesh valley. It ends with discussions of aesthetics, criticism, evolution of myth, and the role and place of the artist in this society.

The field-work was limited to the observation of a metalworker named Taberam who created a parasol (chhatri) for a “face-image of a deity,” a mohra, that sits upon a chariot (ratha). Lacking an opportunity to observe and study a mohra in the making, Hingorani also commissioned an artisan to create a mohra for herself.

When a mohra begins to deteriorate, it is destroyed and a new one is created to take its place. The physical creation of the mohra, as both metaphor and symbol, reflects the changing role of caste in this Himalayan region. The lower-caste artisan’s status and position in society is temporarily raised during the preparation and creation of the mohra. Upon completion and consecration of the new mohra the artisan again reverts to his lower-caste status and no longer eats, sleeps, or behaves as an elevated member of society. His participation in aesthetic discourse is terminated. “Asked what he thought of a practice that allowed him to create the object to be consecrated then prohibited him from touching it once it was a deity,” the artisan Tabernam replied, “Some things are too powerful… only atomic scientists have the knowledge to make a bomb, but once it is ready, they have to hand it over to governments…” (p. 89). This is an interesting contrast to career development in the contemporary Western art-world in which the artist only achieves elevated status after (s)he has successfully developed a reputation.

The text is abundantly illustrated by intelligently selected and informative photographs but repetitions and reuse of text abound. The highly descriptive chapters are preceded by a laborious, disjointed introduction that could well have been omitted since that information is fluidly and comfortably detailed in later chapters. Hingorani’s research, documentation, and notes are excellent. Unfortunately, rather than continuing in her own voice and expanding upon her own conclusions, the author raises her arguments to ambitious philosophic heights. Whereas the works of Bourdieu, Kant, Scruton, Levi-Strauss, and Hegel many not be irrelevant to her thesis, to
Book Reviews

usefully enlist the support of such authors would require considerable elaboration and further development.

*Making Faces: Self and Image Creation in a Himalayan Valley* gives the reader an excellent, animated sense of how traditional values and beliefs survive into the 21st century.

**The Clara Nevada: Gold, Greed, Murder and Alaska’s Inside Passage, by Steven C. Levi.**
Reviewed by Tim Stroshane

During the early days of the Klondike gold rush, a steam-powered vessel called the *Clara Nevada* departed for Seattle from Skagway at the north end of Alaska’s “Inside Passage” in a howling snow storm. The ship carried between 30 and 100 passengers, a few of whom also carried as much as $13 million in raw gold (in today’s dollars). Twenty miles or so from port in the inclement dark, one lone eyewitness saw the Clara Nevada suddenly erupt in flame and quickly sink on a shoal of Eldred Rock in Lynn Canal. Only one body was ever found.

Word spread quickly up and down the Passage’s many small towns, all the way to Seattle and San Francisco. Newspaper coverage lambasted the profit-driven, damn-the-safety-measures attitude of the shipping industry taking passengers and cargo to Alaska and the Klondike region.

Despite media indignation about the hazards of marine travel to the Klondike, there was no systematic public or private investigation of the wreck of the *Clara Nevada.* Nothing like the National Transportation Safety Board existed to reconstruct events.

Nor was any gold ever found in the wreckage off of Eldred Rock.

“This was the beginning of a gold rush,” writes Alaska historian Steven C. Levi, where “the emphasis was on making money and not on keeping records.” In his book, *The Clara Nevada: Gold, Greed, Murder and Alaska’s Inside Passage,* Levi puts the death toll at 57. No doubt, the total absence of passenger lists or ship manifests has rendered it impossible to draw firm conclusions about the incident.

Over a century on, the sinking of the *Clara Nevada* caught Levi’s attention. His book offers a new chapter on the Klondike gold rush, North Pacific shipping, and the plot twists surrounding the Clara Nevada. For three years, he sleuthed the *Clara Nevada’s* riddles.

It seems the “Wild West” migrated offshore and north to Alaska when the western frontier closed in the late 19th century. Nearly any ship that might be made to float was pressed into service
moving people, food and pack animals, supplies and other cargo to Alaska and the Klondike. Captains and crews alike could be well-liquored and rambunctious—on or off duty. Crews and passengers could rapidly become mutinous when conditions deteriorated. Anything could happen.

From the Pacific Northwest, the direct route to the Klondike went through the Inside Passage (see map) from Seattle to Skagway, then on horseback or foot over the Chilkoot Pass to Dawson on the upper Yukon River. Another route crossed the Gulf of Alaska to reach the mouth of the Yukon River on Alaska’s west coast. This route was long, expensive, and especially treacherous route in winter, but it involved little arduous overland trekking.

*The* Clara Nevada is a slim volume, about 100 pages. But despite its seeming efficiency, it suffers from an unfortunate lack of focus. For example, Levi never tells us what captivated him about the *Clara Nevada* incident enough to keep him on it for years. There are no maps to help orient lower-48 readers. Levi includes 20 pages of photographs showing scenes of gold rush miners and towns, suggesting the ambiance of the Klondike rush period and Inside Passage locales. But his selected images illuminate little of his detective mystery. Levi provides no less than three photos of the Eldred Rock lighthouse and island, the *Clara Nevada*’s final resting place. One would have been enough.

Levi’s narrative veers from lucid exposition of the Klondike’s fevered brows and the political economy of maritime insurance and enterprise to excessive description of his historical gumshoe work into the cause(s) of the *Clara Nevada*’s sinking, the ship’s feckless captain C.H. Lewis, and his speculations on exactly who were the gold-thieving conspirators.

His lapse of focus is most fully displayed in the book’s middle chapter, “The Search for Answers.” Here Levi diverts our attention to details of his three-year review of sources, from the 1900 census to arcane in shipping, government, insurance, newspaper, and other archives. Instead of subjecting lay readers to these minutiae, these matters should have been moved to an appendix where interested students of archival methodology and sourcing could learn his detective methods. Placed in the book’s mid-section, alas, his methodology simply interrupts the story of the *Clara Nevada*. 
Book Reviews

A believer in empirical method, Levi often tells his history students that “History is not a re-creation of the past. It’s an assessment of the past based on documents provided by people in archives and museums who will answer your letters.” In piecing together the saga of the Clara Nevada, I learned just how true my statement was.” (p. 39) Here Levi briefly invites yet discourages reflection on the purposes of historical research. But if history does not in some way evoke the past, for what else might it be? In his “search for answers” he instead merely looks for Clara Nevada needles in 100 year-old maritime haystacks. Regardless of how he means his statement, the chapter which it opens would still be better placed as an appendix to the story Levi tells.

Fortunately, Levi soon returns to his storytelling and explains his conclusions from the evidence well enough to make The Clara Nevada worth reading to the end. It is, after all, a short book. Levi’s tale provides a glimpse into the maritimes of the North Pacific during the Klondike through his use of what appears to have been a criminal act.

Member News


Robert Kanigel’s On an Irish Island: The Lost World of the Great Blasket has just been released in a paperback edition from Vintage.

Karen Sinclair’s new book, About Whoever: the Social Imprint on Identity and Orientation, was published as an eBook in January and will be available in hardcover in March. Karen is available for speaking engagements; contact her at karenswall@gmail.com.

Juan Wang’s new book Merry Laughter and Angry Curses: The Shanghai Tabloid Press, 1897-1911 was published by the University of British Columbia.

Scholarly Calendar

Calls for Papers

InTensions Journal: To play is human. Play is a social act of often unclear boundaries. The delineation of playing as a special conditional form of doing or acting in the world relies upon registers of seriousness, authenticity, consequence and import, yet these registers are ultimately ambiguous. Play can materialize and relativize banal affective and social relations. Play can imagine, insist on the possibility of, or suppress, difference. Play may provoke shock or distraction, conceal or reveal intention. Play may be encouraged or denied, rewarded or punished, feared, disdained, addictive, fatal. In this issue, we invite scholarly/artistic contributions that engage the relations between play,
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power, and social reproduction. We welcome theoretical explorations, as well as reflections, experiments, reports, or ethnographies on play and playfulness in its lived, historical, and cultural contexts. InTensions is an interdisciplinary peer reviewed e-journal published out of Fine Arts at York University. This initiative brings together interventions by scholars and artists whose work deals with the theatricality of power, corporealities of structural violence, and sensory regimes. Papers (4000-6000 words), artist works, reviews and interviews can be submitted by April 15, 2013 to: David Harris Smith (dhsmitth@mcmaster.ca) and Elysée Nouvet (nouveve@yahoo.com).

Interesting Literature (http://interestingliterature.wordpress.com/) is looking for academics and independent scholars to contribute guest blog posts on their research. We’re looking for short pieces of 500-800 words which would summarize an individual’s research into any area of literary study. In particular, we’re interested in hearing from scholars, academics, or postgraduate researchers who feel that they can put across what is interesting and unusual about their research topic in a lively and engaging way. As such, we’re more concerned with research summaries which are jargon-free, entertaining, and addressed to the general reader rather than to academic specialists in a particular field. Our blog is newly launched and aims to connect with a wide network of people from both academic and non-academic backgrounds; as such, a contribution to our blog could help to bring your research to a whole new audience. Currently our posts deal with interesting information about authors and their works, unusual interpretations of classic texts, and surprising connections between authors; but we are keen to broaden our ‘interestingness’ remit to include information about the most exciting academic research currently being carried out into different areas of literature and culture. Send inquiries and/or summaries of your research to O.M.Tearle@lboro.ac.uk some time before 1 May 2013 and we will happily consider featuring your research summary on our blog.

Historic Houses: A Focus Issue of the journal Collections: A Journal for Museum and Archives Professionals. Guest Edited by Nancy Bryk, Assistant Professor, Historic Preservation Eastern Michigan University. Content and Focus: Historic houses offer different challenges and opportunities than do other museum exhibition venues. These historic structures are located on their original sites (often with strict restrictions on modification) and may be filled with fragile, original furnishings. Natural light, challenging climates, and small rooms pose issues for exhibition developers. While it is the museum’s obligation to protect the historic structure and original collections it is also its obligation to actively engage its audience with compelling issues that align with community interests. How do we exhibit, preserve, and protect the historic house and its collections yet at the same time use “real things” to make the house highly accessible and engaging to a broad public? Submission process and deadline: The deadline for submission is May 15, 2013. Publication is anticipated for volume 9 of Collections, with an issue date of 2013. Manuscript guidelines are available from the Editor and online. Submit all queries, abstracts and papers via email to the guest editor and journal editor via email at: nbryk@umich.edu and jdecker1@georgetowncollege.edu.

Interstices Journal of Architecture and Related Arts invites critical investigations of theoretical and
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historical content from academics on the topic of “Immaterial Materialities: Materiality and Interactivity in Art and Architecture,” as well as practice-oriented contributions from content providers such as architects, artists and curators, that redress imbalances and missing links in the portrayal and debate of matters concerning materiality and interactivity in art and architecture from the 1920s onward. For the refereed part, we welcome submission of 5000 word papers, and visual submissions with an accompanying text of approximately 500 words. For the non-refereed part, we welcome papers up to 2500 words, and project reports and reviews of up to 1000 words related to the issue theme. Please visit our website and check out the notes for Contributors for details about the reviewing process, copyright issues and formatting: http://interstices.ac.nz/. Send your submission to Sandra Karina Löschke (sandra.loschke@uts.edu.au)

*The Atrium,* an engaging, unique, cross-disciplinary journal, seeks innovative, creative, and critical narrative essays (both personal and classroom-based), as well as fiction and poetry. We do not accept previously-published material. Please do not submit sections of your thesis, dissertation, or any coursework papers! Show our readers the practical application of your great research and creative ideas! Material published has dealt with broad issues that connect classroom to culture and to community. The Atrium invites and encourages academic discourse across the disciplines. Please limit your articles to 5,000 words. The Atrium is attracting an international following of academic readers, and we invite you to participate through the publication of your own best work. To view our current and archived issues, to read the current submission guidelines, and to submit your work, please go to http://inwi.ivytech.edu/atrium/. Questions as well as submissions may be addressed to Nancy Riecken, Managing Editor of *The Atrium,* at nriecken@ivytech.edu. Deadline for the next issue is July 1, 2013.

Calls for Conference Proposals

The National Coalition of Independent Scholars (NCIS) is issuing a call for Independent Scholars to participate in an NCIS sponsored panel to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Historical Association (AHA) in Washington, D.C. January 2-5, 2014. We invite paper and panel proposals from Independent Scholars on the theme of “Disagreement, Debate, Discussion.” Proposals should highlight the different perspectives that historians working outside of academia can bring to controversial historical issues, past and present. Possible foci may include (but are not limited to): the role of journalist-historians and the fine line between journalism and history, Washington as a backdrop for practicing history outside of the academy, and the interplay of resources, politics and government in historiography. Panel participation is open to all Independent Scholars with preference given to NCIS and NCIS affiliated society members. Proposals are due March 29, 2013. Please include a 100-200 word abstract and brief C.V. in your email, and address it to: Neil Bernard Dukas, nbdncis@gmail.com. For information on NCIS membership, visit our website: www.ncis.org.
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12th International F. Scott Fitzgerald Society Conference: We invite you to visit one of the most compelling and conflicted of Southern capitals—and one central to the story of F. Scott Fitzgerald—to celebrate and contemplate his life and work. As the birthplace of his wife, Zelda Sayre; the site where the couple met in 1918; the sanctuary to which they briefly returned in 1931-32 amid the crack-up of their marriage; the home today to the only Fitzgerald museum in the world; and the setting for many of his most memorable stories, Montgomery, Alabama, is a fantastic site for revisiting aspects of Scott and Zelda’s creativity and personality. While we will happily entertain proposals on all aspects of Fitzgerald’s life and work, due to the location, we particularly encourage papers that focus on southern influences on his writing and career. Possible topics include Fitzgerald’s wartime service (particularly anything based on his time stationed at Camp Sheridan near Montgomery in 1918); southern or particularly Alabama influences on his local stories (“The Ice Palace,” “The Jelly Bean,” “The Last of the Belles,” and “Family in the Wind”); the relationship and creative influences between Scott and Zelda; and revisionary discussions of the Fitzgeralds’ relevance to other Montgomery friends (Sara Mayfield, Sara Haardt) or Montgomery icons (Hank Williams, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr). We are also hoping to schedule a few panels devoted to exploring Zelda’s writing (“Southern Girl,” Save Me the Waltz) and art in its own right and would appreciate proposals in those areas as well. Please send your 250-500 word proposal (noting any audio/visual requests) along with a brief C.V. or biographical statement to the program chair, Professor Sara Kosiba, at skosiba@troy.edu. The deadline for proposals is March 1, 2013. Presenters will be notified of acceptance by April 1, 2013.

Deathless Love: The Carolina Emerging Scholars Conference. Celebrating the world’s greatest love stories has long been the subject of authors, painters, musicians, dancers, moviemakers, and critics. The Carolina Emerging Scholars Conference is pleased to accept papers on the theme of “Deathless Love,” ranging from the story of Heloise and Abelard to Wuthering Heights and the Twilight series, and dealing with any genre from poetry to the movies. We would be particularly interested in interdisciplinary papers making connections between two or more genres, for instance, literary or historical love affairs immortalized in visual art or music, the historical and literary intersections of Spiritualism, and cross-cultural notions of love beyond death. The second annual Carolina Emerging Scholars Conference is open to all undergraduate, graduate, and independent scholars, and seeks proposals for papers which emphasize and explore the study of the humanities. This year’s conference will be held at the University of South Carolina, Lancaster. Abstracts of no more than 250 words are due by March 1, 2013. Abstracts should include name, title of paper, institution, and contact information. For complete panel proposals, please list topics and titles of papers and an explanation of how these papers fit together. Also, please provide an abstract from each proposed panel member. Decisions will be made by March 31, 2013. Conference details will be emailed to participants upon acceptance. Visit our website at http://www.usclancaster.sc.edu/CESC/index.html. Submit abstracts electronically via email to cescon@mailbox.sc.edu.
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The Ninth Religion, Literature, and the Arts Conference: Sacrifice, Terror, and the Good, September 26-28, 2013. The 2013 Religion, Literature and the Arts conference at the University of Iowa will focus on the relationships between terror, sacrifice, and the good. If one of the chief functions of the humanities is to encourage us to think reflectively about what we take to be the highest good, sometimes the task of the humanities scholar must be one of recovery, and sometimes one of critique. Rather than leaping to the defense of the pure virtue of the good, the conference pauses to reflect on its terrifying aspects and how it may compel us to sacrifice even that which is dear to us. Working across time and place, we want to build an understanding of how sacrifice works to alleviate or induce terror, and the role of the good in this process. Please submit abstracts of no more than 350 words, along with a working title for your paper, your name, institutional affiliation, and email address to the RLA working group at religion-rla@uiowa.edu. The deadline for submissions is April 30, 2013.

Celebrating the Achievements and Legacies of Ada Lovelace. An interdisciplinary conference celebrating the achievements and legacies of the poet Lord Byron’s only known legitimate child, Ada Byron King, Countess of Lovelace (1815-1852), will take place at Stevens Institute of Technology (Hoboken, New Jersey) on 18 October 2013. This conference will coincide with the week celebrating Ada Lovelace Day, a global event for women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). All aspects of the achievements and legacies of Ada Lovelace will be considered, including but not limited to: Lovelace as Translator and/or Collaborator; Technology in the Long Nineteenth Century; Women in Computing: Past/Present/Future; Women in STEM. Please submit proposals or abstracts of 250-500 words by 14 May 2013 to: Robin Hammerman (rhammerm@stevens.edu).

Fellowships

The American Council of Learned Societies invites applications for the third competition of the Public Fellows program. The program will place 20 recent humanities PhDs in two- year staff positions at partnering organizations in government and the nonprofit sector. This career-launching initiative aims to demonstrate that the capacities developed in the advanced study of the humanities have wide application, both within and beyond the academy. Applications are accepted only through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application system by March 27, 2013. See www.acls.org/programs/publicfellows for complete position descriptions and application information. Competitive applicants will have been successful in both academic and extra-academic experiences, and will aspire to careers in administration, management, and public service by choice rather than circumstance. Applicants must possess U.S. citizenship or permanent resident status and have a PhD in the humanities or humanistic social sciences conferred between January 2010 and the application deadline.