

Social Science Advocate

Spring 2009

Dean Leeder's Notes



Once again it is a pleasure to write to you of the successes and challenges facing the School of Social Sciences. As many of you know, there have been budget issues in the State and for the CSU. As a School we have fared fairly well, being able to make the budget cuts called for, while still trying hard to maintain a decent level of instruction. So far we have been able to weather the storm and hope that we will make it through the next year as well. It has been with the help of generous donors that we have been capable of offering extra curricular programs and subsidies to our faculty for their scholarship and help for students. Some of our faculty have taken students to conferences with Professors Melinda Milligan and Karin Jaffe's planning to take some of their students to the Santa Clara University Western Undergraduate Anthropology and Sociology Research Conference in April. We have had a series of excellent Brown Bag Lectures this semester and last (see list in this newsletter) in which faculty have presented on their latest research, many of which are works in progress, heading for publication.

We have also been assisting others in bringing lectures to campus. This semester's Women's History Month has a lecture by Professor Adrienne Edgar of UC Santa Barbara on women and Islam in Soviet Central Asia that is being funded by the School. We have also supported the Black History Month's Gospel Extravaganza, due to the gracious and generous gifts of our donor, Daphne Smith and we are always grateful to our consistent donor, Vicki Bailey. We are also co-sponsors of the Julian Bond Lecture on March 20th, which is part of the Andrea Neves and Barton Evans Social Justice Lecture Series and the Heritage Lecture Series. Additionally, the Erma and Arthur Salm Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove will have its formal dedication ceremony on Sunday, March 29 from 3-5 pm at the Lakes at SSU. The event will be quite moving, with representatives from the Native American, Armenian, Jewish, Cambodian, Rwandan and Darfur communities presenting.

We invite you to visit us on the second floor of Stevenson Hall. Drop by, we would love to give you a tour and introduce you to our faculty, staff and students.

Warmly, Elaine

Donuts with the Dean

Don't forget to join Dean Elaine Leeder for **DONUTS WITH THE DEAN**, in which faculty, staff and students are invited to an hour with the Dean. Now planned as a regular activity, everyone is invited to come to visit, complain or just grab a donut. The dates for this semester are: February 25, March 25, and April 29 from 11 am –12pm in the Anthropology Lounge, Stevenson Hall, room 2054.



Dates to Remember:

- Campus Closed
February 16, President's Day
March 31, Cesar Chavez birthday
- March 20, Julian Bond Lecture
- March 29, Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove Dedication
- Spring Break April 13-17

SSU Students Attend President Obama Inauguration in Washington, D.C.



Twelve SSU students participated in "Campaign 2008: The Presidential Inauguration Seminar" over the January 2009 Intersession which offered students the unique opportunity to witness the inauguration of President-elect Barack Obama as the 44th President of the U.S.

The POLS 390 academic seminar, with support from both the School of Social Sciences and the School of Extended Education, provided a backstage look into the Presidential Inauguration. David McCuan, Associate Professor, Political Science, (pictured above, far left) organized the course and participants traveled to Washington D.C. for a series of briefings, seminars, lectures, and special events offered through The Washington Center (TWC) including attending the Inaugural Ceremony and participating in inaugural events. Almost 750 students participated from colleges and universities across the nation. SSU students were among just a half dozen universities participating from California.

Students traveled to the D.C. area beginning January 9th and stayed through the Inauguration itself held on Tuesday, January 20th. As part of the class, students kept daily blog entries, working with the Santa Rosa *Press Democrat*, so that interested parties could follow the students' while in the nation's capitol. The blogs which were posted at the *Press Democrat's* website, under [Sonoma Obama \(sonomaobama.pressdemocrat.com\)](http://sonomaobama.pressdemocrat.com), provided multiple updates throughout the day for what students were experiencing and learning. After the Inauguration itself each student was responsible for contacting between two and three media outlets throughout Northern California and over the wires to provide comments and reflections about their experience during the ceremony. This included posting on [The Huffington Post \(www.huffingtonpost.com\)](http://www.huffingtonpost.com) website to document students' experiences upon witnessing the swearing in of the 44th U.S. President.

Highlights of the experience included hearing from notable D.C. media veterans Ted Koppel, Sam Donaldson, and Bob Schieffer, as well as participating in several briefings broadcast live on the CSPAN network, including an interview session with former White House Press Secretary Dana Perino. Other guest speakers included Steve Bell, former news anchor of ABC's "Good Morning America," Juan Williams of NPR, and Mark Russell, noted political satirist. SSU students also participated in site visits to the Reuters D.C. media bureau, the Embassies of Qatar and the Czech Republic, while other student groups attended site visits at such organizations as Amnesty International, CNN, and the Federal Election Commission as well as the headquarters of the Democratic and Republican National Committees.

More information about the programs offered by The Washington Center is available at their web site: www.campaign2008.info.



Student Parent Action Resource Club

SPARC : Student Parent Action Resource Club ARE YOU....

- An SSU Student
- AND a parent?
- AND low income?



SPARC's Spring meetings are the second Wednesday of the month: March 11, April 8, and May 13; all are at noon in Stevenson 2001. Meetings consist of time to get to know other students who are parents for support and exchange resource tips, a short guest speaker (15-20 minutes) about campus or community resources for low-income student parents and FREE PIZZA. If people would like more information (students who are interested in the club or faculty/staff would like to support/help with the club) they can contact me at sheila.katz@sonoma.edu or at 664-2583.

Rev. James E. Coffee Human Rights Award



Dr. Lorna Catford

Dr Lorna Catford received the Rev. James E. Coffee Human Rights Award for her support of individuals touched by autism at a ceremony on January 19th in Santa Rosa. Her Collaborative Autism Training & Support Program trains students and professionals to work with individuals with autism, provides free respite and other resources to families, and offers autism awareness seminars to the community.

Princeton Fellowship Granted



Our very own Amy Kittelstrom, History Professor, has been granted a fellowship with Princeton University. The fellowship is in Christian Thought and Practice at the Center for the Study of Religion,

Princeton University. Amy is responsible only for working on her book, The Religion of Democracy: Liberals and Self-Culture in Evolutionary America, 1838-1912. Congratulations Kitt!

Holocaust and Memorial Grove Dedication



The Erna & Arthur Salm Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove

Representatives from the Native American, Armenian, Jewish, Cambodian, Rwandan, and Darfur communities will join us in dedicating and celebrating the completion of the Erna & Arthur Salm Holocaust and Memorial Grove. Designed and constructed by SSU's Jann Nunn, the Memorial Grove will be installed next to the Lakes on the Sonoma State University Campus.

The ceremony will be held by the Lakes on Sunday, March 29th from 3:00-5:00pm.

Julian Bond to speak on SSU Campus ~ March 20th

Speaking Schedule on March 20th:

Discussion with Julian Bond 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Schulz 3001

(Informal Q&A, hosted by Dean Elaine Leeder, Social Sciences and Dean Mary Gendernalik-Cooper, Education)

Julian Bond

"The Road to Freedom: From Alabama to Obama"

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. The Cooperage

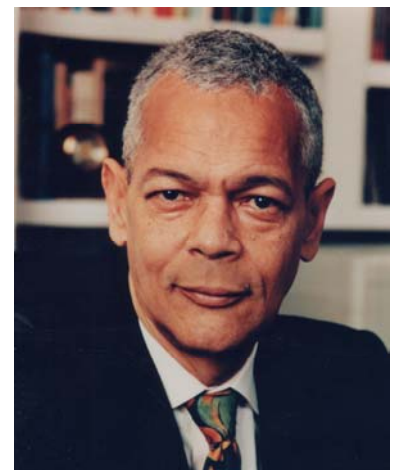
Reception in Cooperage immediately following lecture

"From his student days to his current Chairmanship of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Julian Bond has been an active participant in the movements for civil rights and economic justice. As an activist who has faced jail for his convictions, as a veteran of more than 20 years service in the Georgia General Assembly, a university professor and a writer, he has been on the cutting edge of social change since 1960." ~NAACP

The event is sponsored by the **Andrea Neves and Barton Evans Social Justice Lecture Series** and co-sponsored by the Heritage Lecture Series of the Center for Culture, Gender & Sexuality, School of Social Sciences, School of Education, Instructionally Related Activities, Associated Students and the Sonoma Student Union Corporation.

Tickets can be purchased in the Student Union

**Friday, March 20th
7:30 p.m.
Location: Person Theatre**



Julian Bond

Brown Bag Lecture Series



TUESDAYS
12-1 pm
Stevenson
2011
Bring Your
Own Lunch!

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| February 17 | James Dean, Sociology. "Straight Trouble: Heterosexualities in a Post-Closeted Society" |
| February 24 | David McCuan, Political Science. Title: "Lunch with Bugs: The Elegant Simplicity of Bio-Terrorism" |
| March 3 | Stephen Bittner, History. Title: "Wine in the Lands of Tsar and Commissar." |
| March 10 | Margie Purser, Anthropology. Title: "Safe Harbor? Cultural Pluralism and Contested Landscapes in a Historical Fijian Port-o-Call" |
| March 17 | Mary Halavais, History. Title: "Aragon Has the Last Word: Letters Exchanged Between a Representative of the Spanish King and Aragon's Cortes" |
| March 24 | Geri Olson, Psychology. Title: "Reclusive, Eccentric, and Curious: Art Created in Solitude and Confinement" |
| April 7 | Eric Williams, Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies. Title: "Courts and Corrections: The Effect of Prisons on Local and Federal Courts" |
| April 21 | Steve Estes, History. Title: "Segregation and the 'Greatest Generation'" |
| April 28 | Jann Nunn, Art and Art History. Title: "The Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Sculpture Grove" |
| May 5 | Gisela Wendling, Psychology. Title: "They Got It Right...The Gods Are Crazy: A View of Change from the Kalahari" |
| May 12 | Michelle Jolly and Emilie Roy, History. Title: "The Personal is Historical: Notes from the Sonoma County Women's Oral History Project" |

SOCIAL SCIENCE ADVOCATE

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