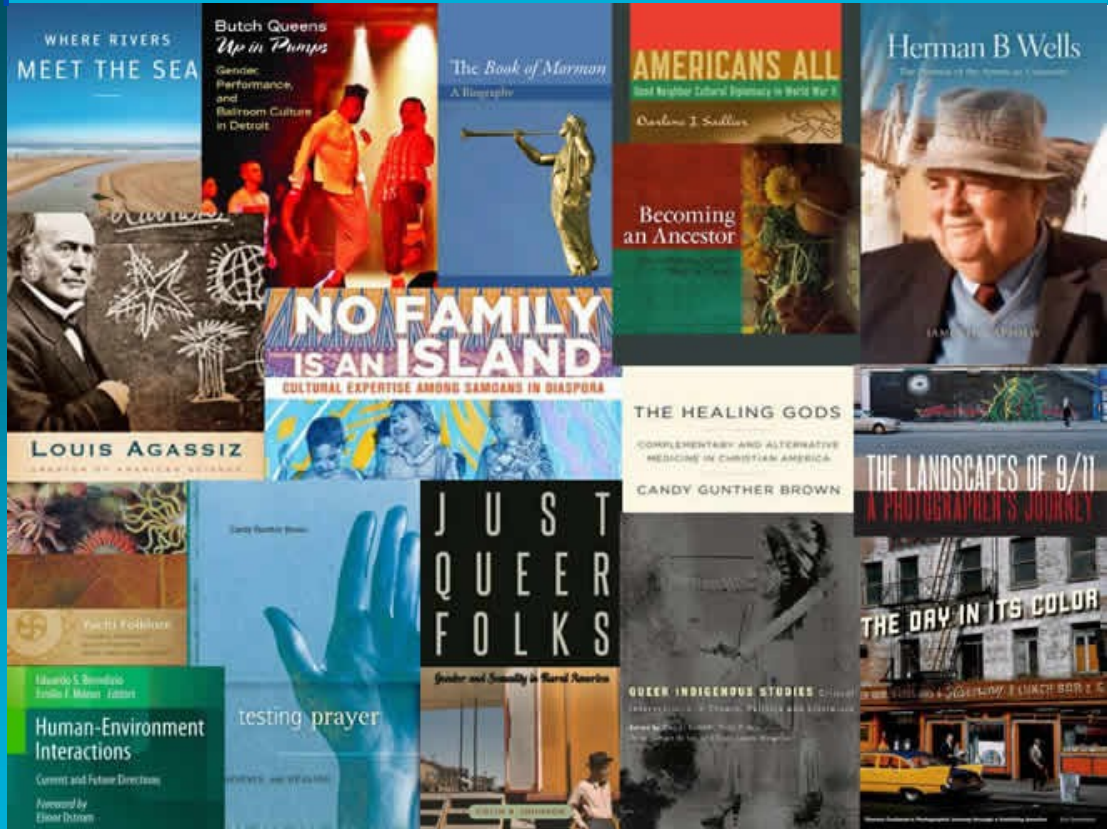


Celebration of Recent AMST Authors

AMERICAN STUDIES

the Americas Messenger



MARLON M. BAILEY, *Butch Queens Up in Pumps: Gender, Performance, and Ballroom Culture in Detroit*, University of Michigan Press, 2013.

EDUARDO BRONDIZIO and Emilio Moran, eds., *Human-Environment Interactions: Current and Future Directions*, Springer Scientific Publishers, 2012.

CANDY GUNTHER BROWN, *The Healing Gods: Complimentary and Alternative Medicine in Christian America*, Oxford University Press, 2013.

JAMES H. CAPSHEW, *Herman B Wells: The Promise of the American University*, Indiana University Press, 2012.

ILANA GERSHON, *No Family is an Island: Cultural Expertise among Samoans in Diaspora*, Cornell University Press, 2012.

BRIAN GILLEY, Morgenson, Driscoll, Finley, eds., *Queer Indigenous Studies: Critical Interventions in Theory, Politics and Literature*, University of Arizona Press, 2011.

PAUL GUTJAHR, *The Book of Mormon: A Biography*, Princeton University, 2012.

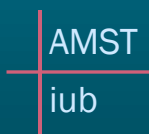
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Special points of interest:

- Recent AMST Authors
- “Road Comics” by Susan Seizer
- José Anguiano Colloquium
- Junot Diaz Visit



Road Comics — “Working Class Comics for the Working Class”

Why would anyone pursue something so difficult: driving long hours, receiving low pay, and sleeping in sometimes “crusty” conditions? What is life like on the road for those whose stories are not made for TV? These are some of the questions that Susan Seizer, Associate Professor in Communication and Culture and adjunct professor in American Studies, contemplates. To find the answers, she applied for and received a \$50,000 New Frontiers in the Arts & Humanities research grant at Indiana University in 2008. Bear’s Place, which closed its 27-year-long run of weekly standup comedy nights in 2011, was her chosen venue for selecting three standup comics to follow on-stage and off-: Stewart

Huff, Kristen Key, and Tim Northern. In addition to observing these comics in local venues, Susan took road trips herself throughout middle America filming live performances and interviewing club owners, bookers and managers. Seizer’s ethnographic documentary film, “Road Comics: Big Work on Small Stages,” was completed in 2012.

Listen to Professor Seizer’s interview with Indiana Public Media at <http://indianapublicmedia.org/arts/place-film-road-comics-professor-susan-seizer/>. To see the film, “Road Comics,” visit the website: <http://w.roadcomicsmovie.com/>.



Professor Susan Seizer, Department of Communication and Culture

Accolades

Elizabeth A. Burbach (Anthropology & Folklore) publishes “Hittin’ the Streets with the NYC Tranzformerz,” in *Voices: The Journal of New York Folklore* (39: 1-2). The piece is an introduction to a long-standing crew of street performing b-boys (break dancers) and how their community-oriented artistry helps make the big city feel like a small community.

Professor Cara Caddoo has been awarded an NEH Faculty Fellowship. This yearlong fellowship will allow her to focus on her project, “The History of Early African American Cinema,” in which she researches early black cinema in the Americas.



Susan Eckelmann was awarded the Moody Research Grant from The Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation, a committee of faculty members from the University of Texas at Austin, for her project “Freedom’s Little Lights: The World of Children and Teenagers in the U.S. and Abroad during the Civil Rights Era.”

Jordache A. Ellapen receives a College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award for \$500.

Professor Lessie Jo Frazier has been awarded a Grant-in-aid from the Office of the Vice Provost for Research for her book project, *Beyond ‘68: The Gendering of Political Culture in the 1968 Mexican Student Movement and Its Legacies*, which she is co-writing with Deborah Cohen (University of Missouri-St. Louis), and which is under contract with the University of Illinois Press.

Professor Stephanie C. Kane did ethnographic fieldwork in one of the wettest followed by one of the driest places on the planet: Singapore and the southern Peruvian coast. In the first, she studied flash flooding and in the second, aquatic and gendered dimensions of surviving and recovering from the 2010 earthquake and tsunami. She published *Environment Decision-Making in the Argentine Delta*. Pp. 77-101. In *Comparative Decision Making*. Phil Crowley and Thomas Zentall, Editors. New York: Oxford University Press.

Professor Michael T. Martin was the Keynote speaker at the Conference “Representing Social Classes in Films in English-Speaking Countries” October 10-11, 2013, at the Université Rennes 2 in Upper Brittany, France. His address was titled “Locating Class in the African American Cinematographic Archive.”



“Accolades,” cont. on page 4

“Recent AMST Authors,” cont. from page 1

CHRISTOPH IRMSCHER, *Louis Agassiz: Creator of American Science*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013.

JASON JACKSON BAIRD, *Yuchi Folklore Cultural Expression in a Southeastern Native American Community*, University of Oklahoma Press, 2013.

COLIN R. JOHNSON, *Just Queer Folks: Gender and Sexuality in Rural America*, Temple University Press, 2013.

STEPHANIE C. KANE, *Where Rivers Meet the Sea: the Political Ecology of Water*, Temple University Press, 2012.

ED T. LINENTHAL, *The Landscapes of 9/11: A Photographer's Journey*, University of Texas Press, 2013.

ANYA PETERSON ROYCE, *Becoming an Ancestor: The Isthmus Zapotec Way of Death*, State University of New York Press, 2011.

DARLENE SADLIER, *Americans All: Good Neighbor Cultural Diplomacy in World War II*, University of Texas Press, 2012.

ERIC SANDWEISS, *The Day in Its Color: Charles Cushman's Photographic Journey through a Vanishing America*, Oxford University Press, 2012.

ELLEN WU, *The Color of Success: Asian Americans and the Origins of the Model Minority*, as part of Princeton University Press's "Politics and Society in Twentieth Century America" series, 2013.

News

Alumni

Jordan Bertz was recently hired as a law clerk in the Chambers of the Honorable Justice Debra Todd of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court while attending Law School at The University of Pittsburgh. She graduated IU with a double major in American Studies and Political Science in 2012.

Elizabeth Warren received a Masters of Arts in Spanish at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is currently a PhD student in Spanish Literature at UCLA. She graduated in 2009, and majored in American Studies, Spanish and Portuguese, and English.

Professor Emeritus

Professor Emeritus Bob Ivie was named a Distinguished Scholar by the National Communication Association. The NCA generally recognizes 3-4 scholars each year "for a lifetime of scholarly achievement in the study of human communication," and the scholars are elected by previously named Distinguished Scholars.

Upcoming Events

COLLOQUIUM

José Anguiano, Visiting Professor in the Department of American Studies and the Latino Studies Program, will give a talk entitled "Soundtracks of Belonging: The Music Listening Practices of Mexican Custodians at a Southern California University," Wednesday, January 22, 12:00 p.m. in the Maple Room, IMU.

LECTURE

Interjeet Parmar (Professor of International Politics at City University London) will give a lecture

on "Empire and Race in Anglo-American wars from Korea to the War on Terror," Monday, March 10 (time and place TBA).

JUNOT DÍAZ VISIT

AMST and LATS are sponsoring a visit by Pulitzer-Prize winning author, **Junot Díaz**, as part of a symposium on "Science Fiction in the Americas," Tuesday, April 8th. He is the author of the critically acclaimed *Drown; The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, which won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle

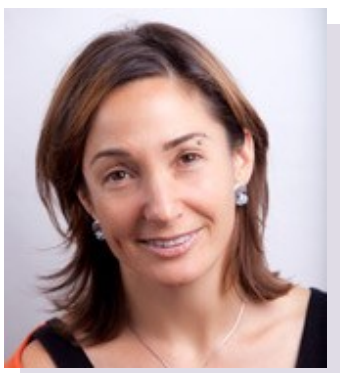
Award; and *This is How You Lose Her*, a New York Times bestseller and National Book Award finalist.

CONFERENCE

Graduate students in American Studies will host a conference this spring. Date, time, and place to be determined.

“Accolades,” cont. from page 2

Professor Micol Seigel will spend this spring at the United States Studies Center, University of Sydney, Australia, as a Visiting Fellow. She was also awarded a grant by the Latin American Studies Association for her project, “Tepoztlán—Kayb’alan.” This grant will provide support for the Tepoztlán Institute collective and a collective of Mam Indigenous scholars in Guatemala to do collaborative research and writing. Micol has recently published two co-authored editorials, both in *Quartz*,



Micol Seigel

a digital business news outlet of *The Atlantic*: “Brazil’s protests reveal the tension of a people moving ahead of their country,” Osmundo Pinho, co-author, and “Privatization in Mexico is a road to nowhere”, co-author, Elliott Young.

Professor Christina Snyder has been awarded the Glenn Black Laboratory of Archaeology Faculty Curatorship for collections study and writing to facilitate her *Ancient America* project.



Christina Snyder

She also has been appointed to the Thomas Milton Miller and Kathryn Owens Miller Professorship in Indiana History.

Professor Shane Vogel delivered the Keynote address for the Second Annual Black Queer Sexuality Studies conference at Princeton University, October 19, 2013. He is also serving on the Programming Committee for the American Studies Association’s 2014 conference in Los Angeles.



Shane Vogel

Support American Studies

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Please support American Studies by donating to the AMST Foundation account. As a gift to a tax-exempt educational institution, 50% of your contribution can be deducted from the amount of your total state income tax. Note that this is a credit against taxes, not merely a deduction!

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