UAH Humanities Center
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Expanding the Sphere of International Programs at UAH

The Humanities Center's longstanding support of international education has recently received new strength through the aid of the United States government. As UAH completes its two-year **International Business Studies Initiative (IBSI)**, we have received a second federal grant for a more comprehensive program, **Global Studies at the University of Alabama in Huntsville**.

A key goal of the new program is to engage all of the colleges at UAH—Liberal Arts, Administrative Science, Science, Engineering, and Nursing—through a campus-wide leadership team and learning experiences for all undergraduates. The Center's involvement reflects its mission to enhance the influence of the humanities across the university.

For this latest grant, the Center supported two years' work by a large group of faculty, administrators, and staff. They developed the concepts and outlined the structure for Global Studies, with the Center's Director writing the final grant proposal. The new program's Project Director is **Dr. Kathy Hawk** (Political Science), with **Dr. Richard Gerberding** (History) the Co-Director for Study Abroad. Both have lived and worked abroad, so they bring practical experience as well as scholarly knowledge to the program.

Like the IBSI, the Global Studies Program receives funds from the U.S. Department of Education, in the latter case from the Office of Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Programs. The total budget for the two-year project is just over $300,000: $148,000 in federal funds and the remainder matching funds and cost-shared time from UAH. The Center will manage the budget for the grant period.

Under the grant, UAH will create a Global Studies cognate program combining two new interdisciplinary courses—an introduction to Global Studies and a capstone seminar—with a series of other courses chosen from participating disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. The study abroad program will contain new options for foreign study in the form of credit-earning courses designed to advance knowledge and understanding of the world outside of the United States. Some of these are especially planned to be accessible to students in degree programs like engineering or nursing, which are so tightly structured that students have few free electives. The program will also include more support for long-term international study, such as a semester abroad option.

Some of the groundwork for this program has been laid through the IBSI, which has sponsored the first international internships in the popular Foreign Language International Trade program **(see below and p. 2)**. Through these two infusions of federal money, UAH improves its programs far beyond the level possible with the state's strained budgets. By using these infusions to achieve institutional change, we can benefit UAH students into the future.

Local organizations hosting IBSI internships over the past two years included Adtran, Madison County Commission Planning and Economic Development (International Trade Office), International Intermodal Center of the Port of Huntsville, Sanmina-SCI, Sparta, Teledyne Brown Engineering, Brownell Travel, Huntsville Stars Professional Baseball Club, Kappler International, Multicultural Information Center, Daimler-Chrysler, North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence, Panalpina Inc., Seldon Center, Madison County Adult Educational Program, Valley Garden Activity Center. Our international hosts were from Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, France and Switzerland.

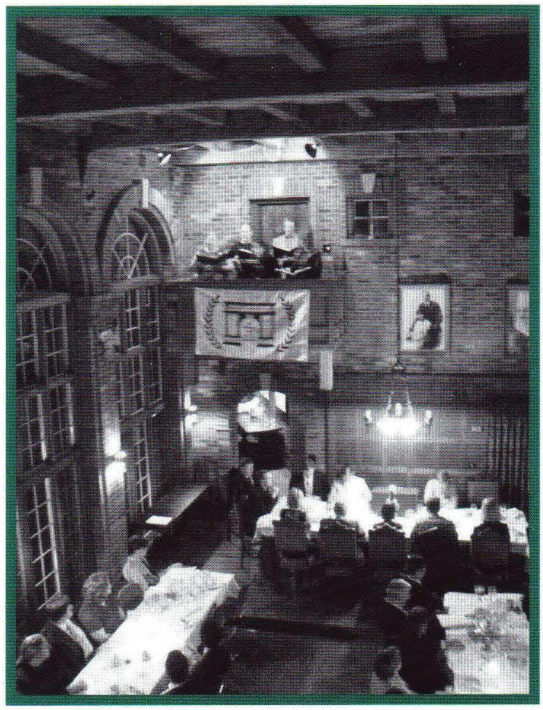
Workshops combine Humanities and Business Ideas

As part of the International Business Studies Initiative, the Humanities Center joined with faculty from the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, the College of Administrative Science, and our business partner the North Alabama International Trade Association (NAITA) to sponsor two workshops for students and people in the area's business community.

The first workshop, held in January at the Huntsville Hilton, featured three speakers—all distinguished participants in current international trade negotiations—addressing aspects of the topic "Prospects for the Free Trade Area of the Americas." **Professor Terry McCoy,** Director of the Latin American Business Environment Program at the University of Florida, provided an overview of the subject.

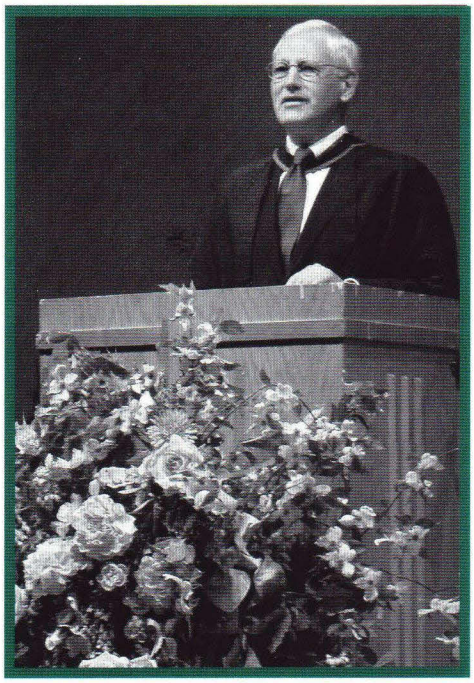
Two speakers represented Central American nations, emphasizing the benefits of free trade between the U.S. and their own countries. **Professor Guillermo Castillo**, from Francisco Marroquin University of Guatemala, was formerly Minister of Economy for his country and participated in numerous international trade conferences. The **Honorable Miguel Lacayo**, currently Minister of Economy for El Salvador, gave a very well-received luncheon address. Both speakers were gracious guests who talked freely with the audience both formally and informally after the program.

The second workshop, held in April at the Bevill Center, drew upon the talents of UAH Visiting Eminent Scholar **Professor Edward Ingram**, who is also Professor Emeritus of Imperial History at Canada's Simon Fraser University, as well as other expert speakers. This program was specifically designed to provide a broad historical framework for current trade issues. In light of the fact that the Iraq war had begun shortly before the program, most speakers concentrated some remarks on those war-related issues then in the minds of most Americans.



The Vox Angelica sings to The Society for Ancient Languages at the Society's annual Convivium.

(See article on opposite page)



Visiting Eminent Scholar Edward Ingram addresses UAH audience.

The opening session featured **Dr. Kenneth Moss**, Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Professor in the Department of Grand Strategy at the National Defense University. Dr. Moss had recently toured northwestern Europe for a series of State Department sponsored speaking engagements, and his remarks reflected that experience. His topic, "The National Security Strategy of the Bush Administration," traced across over two-hundred years the historical roots of current international policy. A panel of speakers responded to his remarks, focusing more specifically on the Middle East. Speakers were **Dr. James Isbell**, a policy analyst at SAI, along with UAH faculty members **Dr. Niles Schoening** (Economics) and **Dr. Kathleen Hawk** (Political Science).

Dr. Ingram's address opened the afternoon session. Speaking as an "outsider," he gave an historically-grounded critique of current American policy that riveted the audience to his dramatic presentation: "The U.S. as Hegemon, Empire, or Great Britain in Disguise." UAH panelists, all of whom had lived abroad for many years, were **Dr. Edward Rogers** (Strategic Management), **Dr. Bhavani Sitaraman** (Sociology), and **Dr. Yeqing Bao** (Marketing).

Lively audience discussion characterized both sessions, with opinions ranging from left to right on the political spectrum, as did the various presentations. The workshop was a prime example of how engagement among representatives of various academic disciplines can foster a deeper understanding of contemporary issues.

Public Programs and Faculty Research Grants

Classics Week 2003

From April 3-5 of this year, the humanities center helped sponsor a visit to UAH by **Ernst Badian**, Professor Emeritus of Harvard University and one of the leading experts on the history of the Late Roman Republic. Professor Badian gave two public lectures on Friday April 5th entitled: "Literature and Patronage in the Roman Republic" and " In Search of the Roman Republic" He had much to say about the semi-public nature of the Roman government and how it was that so few people could control the whole of Mediterranean civilization. On Saturday he delivered a charming after-dinner speech at the Society for Ancient Language's annual Convivium (see picture on opposite page). Here he delighted the members and guests with a talk about Parrots in ancient Greece and Rome. By all accounts, Professor Badian's visit was a huge success, and his lectures provided real understanding to all who came to hear them.

Public Programming Grants Awarded For 2002-2003

As in the past, the Humanities Center continues to provide public programming grants to faculty members and departments. This year support was provided for the annual History Forum , "The Women's Movement in the United States Since 1890." Featured lecturers were **Dr. Robyn Muncy**, University of Maryland, and **Dr. Angel Kwolek-Folland**, University of Florida. Guest speakers included **Ms. Linda Green**; CEO Colonial Bank Northern Region; **Ms. Kelly Gaston**, President and CEO of Gradkell Systems; **Representative Laura Hall**; **Dr. Amanda Goodson**, Director of Safety & Mission Assurance at NASA/ MSFC and **Professor Carolyn Parker**, Alabama A&M University.

The Center also supported a special Philosophy progam, "Structure and Perception: Philosophy of Art," featuring **Larry Millard**, University of Georgia; Cheryl Goldsleger, Georgia State University; and Annette Cone-Skelton, Museum of Contemporary Arts, Georgia. In addition, the Center provided a grant to support the North Alabama Archeological Society lecture series featuring **Dr. Lanny Bell** from Brown University. Other speakers in the series were **Dr. Elizabeth Bartman**, Joukowksy Lecturer; **Dr. Mark Aldenderfer**, University of California Santa Barbara; **Dr. Francis P. McManamon**, Chief Archeologist, National Park Service and **Dr. David L. Lentz**, Chicago Botanic Garden.

Center Awards Faculty Research Grants For 2002-2003

Philip Boucher, Professor of History, will continue his work on the two volume history of the French in the greater Caribbean area. The project title of the work is "France and the Caribbean in the Era of Slavery."

Rolf Goebel, Professor of Foreign Languages and Literature, was awarded a grant to purchase publication rights of photos included in his essay, "Berlin's Architectural Citations: Reconstruction, Simulation and the Problem of Historical Authenticity."

Linda Maier, Associate Professor of Spanish, received a grant to support the publication of a volume of essays, titled "Woman as Witness: Essays on Testimonial Literature by Latin American Women;" see page 4 to view the cover.

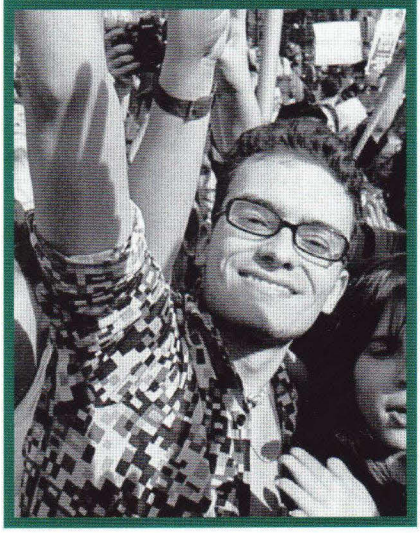
David Brunsma, Assistant Professor of Sociology, continues his research with a grant to further study the "Life-history Narratives of Biracial's Experiences of 'Doing Race'."

Sonya Brown-Givens, Assistant Professor of Communication Arts, received a grant for her research for a book project entitled, "African American Pioneers in Communication Research."

Madeleine Youmans, Assistant Professor of English, continues her research and analysis of linguistics in the social-theory framework. She is completing her book tentatively titled "Chicano-Anglo Conversations: Truth, Honesty, and Politeness."

Andrew Dunar, Professor of History, is currently researching the history of Boulder City, Nevada, with the intention of writing a book about the area as representative of Western development in the U.S.

Academic Year 2002-2003 Upcoming Events



Cameron Carpenter To Visit UAH

The UAH Humanities Center, the Church of the Nativity-Episcopal, and the Greater Huntsville Alabama Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will host an organ recital and panel discussion with guest artist **Cameron Carpenter,** New York City, on Friday, October 24, 2003.

In 1999, as the youngest of over 35 competitors and the only American, Mr. Carpenter won the coveted Medal for Interpretation at the World Organ Competition in memory of Franz Liszt. His winners' recital from the Great Hall of the Liszt Academy was broadcast live on worldband radio to critical acclaim. Having given numerous recitals in the U.S. and Europe, Cameron Carpenter has been praised as a "musician of astonishing virtuosity" and "consummate artistry." These achievements have placed him "in the league of great young musicians such as Evgeny Kissin and Nadia Salerno-Sonnenberg." For further details about Mr. Carpenter's credentials and recital reviews, please visit his homepage (www.cameroncarpenter.com).

The panel discussion, scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on the UAH campus, will feature Mr. Carpenter with UAH and Oakwood College faculty. It will place Mr. Carpenter's recital in the context of musical history, current organ performance practice, and the organ as a liturgical and concert instrument. The recital, at 7:30 p.m. at the Church of the Nativity, will feature a wide range of exciting organ repertoire and improvisations by Mr. Carpenter. Both events are open to the public and free of charge.

For further information, please contact Dr. Rolf J. Goebel, Huntsville AL Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, The University of Alabama in Huntsville. Phone:(256) 824-2344(office); (256)536-7855 (home) and Fax: (256) 824-6329.

Philosophy Forum to present speakers on "Philosophy and Mysticism: Influences and Interactions."

This year's philosophy forum highlights two speakers. **Dr. Allison P. Courdert** is a Professor of Religious Studies at Arizona State University. She is widely published and well known as a speaker on the Kabbalah and its influence on science and philosophy of the 17th Century. Among her books are *The impact of the Kabbalah in the Seventeenth Century*: *The Life and Thought of Francis Mercury van Helmont*, *Leibniz and the Kabbalah*, and *Alchemy: The Philosopher's Stone*. She argues that the Kabbalah had enormous impact on philosophy and science of the Enlightment. **Dr. Bruce Janz** is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Agustana University College. He has published papers on mysticism and understanding and has taught a course entitled Philosophy of Western Mysticism. He also developed and published various web resources on mysticism and the works of Jacob Boheme. Dr. Janz argues that historical mysticism has relevance for contemporary philosophical problems.

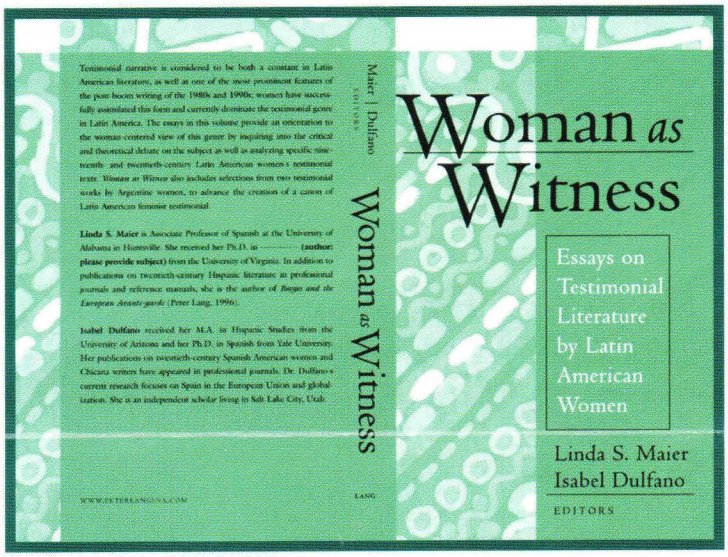
Dr. Charles Mills ToVisit UAH as Distinguished Visiting Scholar in Spring 2004

Dr. Mills will be visiting UAH for two weeks during the spring semester. He is currently Professor of Philosophy at the Univesity of Illinois at Chicago. In the sixteen years since he earned his Ph.D. he has established a remarkable record of publication that broke new ground in the field of philosophy and race. He has published 40 articles and two books *Blackness Visible* and *The Racial Contract,* which was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award by Cornell University Press.

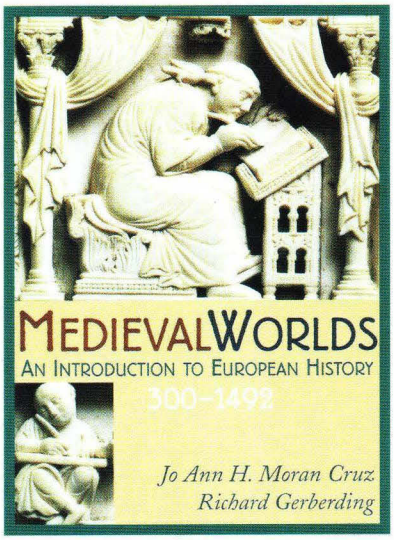
We're located on the World Wide Web at http://www.uah.edu/humanities

Former Center Research Grant Recipients Publish Three New Books

Dr. Linda Maier, Associate Professor of Spanish recently published a volume of essays entitled *Woman as Witness: Essays on Testimonial Literature by Latin American Women*. Dr. Maier was a co-editor of the volume with Dr. Isabel Dulfano. The volume provides an orientation to the woman-centered view of this genre and launches a sweeping discussion of women's testimonial literature in Latin America. (cover shown below)



Dr. Rolf Goebel, Professor of German, has recently published *Benjamin Today: City Discourse, Postcoloniality, and Flânerie between Cultures*. Goebel's study addresses three interconnected aspects: Benjamin's reception in current theories of postcoloniality, the representation of colonial issues and the 'foreign' in Benjamin's own texts, and the transfer of Benjamin's figure of the flaneur from the European metropolis into a cultural space. Thus Benjamin appears in the fascinating light of contemporary debates about the overlapping of literature and ethnology, the self-representation of the global city, and the theory of intercultural translation.



Dr. Richard Gerberding, Professor of History and Professor Jo Ann Moran Cruz of Georgetown University have just published *Medieval Worlds, an introduction to European History 300-1492*. The textbook is intended for use by university students and was published by Houghton Mifflin. The book builds a social narrative within a political framework and emphasizes the high and the popular culture of the period, along with medieval urban, rural, and academic traditions. Professor Gerberding's research interests center on the early Middle Ages and Professor Moran Cruz's on the last half of the period.

2003 Salmon Library Enhancement Awards

This year almost $15,000 in materials for the Salmon Library will be purchased to enhance the humanities at UAH. These materials will benefit students taking classes that are required as part of their general education as well as prerequisites for specific degrees. The enhancement of library materials offers them additional resources for term papers and in-depth research into subjects mentioned but not necessarily emphasized in classroom texts.

Individuals with winning proposals included Dr. Diana Bell, English; Dr. Andree Reeves, Political Science and Women Studies; Dr. Madeleine Youmans, English; Dr. Philip Boucher, History; Dr. Bonnie Sneed, Music; Dr. Virginia Martin, History; Dr. Don Bowyer, Music; Dr. John Severn, History and Drs. Virginia Martin and Sheri Shuck with a joint proposal from the History Department.

The history awards will support research and courses in World History, Russian and Soviet History and a variety of subjects relating to the Enlightenment.

In the area of music, new materials will support the fields of Jazz studies and Choral Music Education.

To support research and English course offerings a number of titles relating to the social and psychological factors that affect the English language will be purchased.

Director:
Brian Martine

Executive Director for Special Projects:
Johanna Shields

Program Assistants:
Deborah Nelson
Blake Stewart

Steering Committee:
John Severn, History
Glenna Colclough, Sociology
Rolf Goebel, Foreign Lang. & Lit.
Rose Norman, English

Changes on the Horizon: As in all good organizations, the Humanities Center staff continually seeks to improve. For this reason, we have been revising our website. If you are interested in learning more about the Humanities Center and what we do, you will find the website very useful. If you are familiar with the Center, you will find that we have made information more readily available. The website now lists all grant programs administered by the Humanities Center with guidelines to help you determine which program fits your needs. Announcements of all requests for proposals will be listed periodically as well as deadlines for submission. We now have a new form for those individuals who wish to apply for financial support of public programs. Please visit us at www.uah.edu/humanities/ and let us know what you think of our revised website.

(Two additional committee members will be selected in the fall.)

From the Director (outgoing!)

Just before this newsletter was mailed, Dr. Brian Martine, long-time chair of the Department of Philosophy, became the new Director of the Humanities Center. Having contributed to the earliest plans for the Center and having served as a member of the Steering Committee from its inception, Dr. Martine will not break stride as he undertakes his new responsibilities. He has exciting ideas about how the Center can continue improving its service to the university and community. A participant at meetings of the national Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes, he will keep UAH's Center in the forefront of similar organizations elsewhere.

I will remain with the Center as Executive Director for Special Projects, a position title we invented to suggest that the job was 1) somehow useful, but 2) very much a part-time affair. Under that title I will continue trying to expand the Center's sources of external funding. And I will also teach my favorite southern history classes, beginning again in the fall semester.

It has been a source of great pride for us to see the Humanities Center develop into a genuine success story at UAH. We thank all of you who have contributed to this success and look forward to working more closely with you in the future.

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