

Columbia University in the City of New York | New York, N. Y. 10027

SOCIETY OF FELLOWS IN THE HUMANITIES

420 West 118th Street

COLUMBIA SOCIETY OF FELLOWS IN THE HUMANITIES
Annual Report for 1978-79

The Columbia Society of Fellows in the Humanities, which was formed during 1975 with endowments from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the William R. Kenan Trust, received during 1978-79 grants and additions to endowment that will make possible a substantial increase in its program of teaching, research, self-studies, and curricular exploration. The Mellon Foundation awarded funds which, if matched by the University within five years, will provide an expansion of \$1,500,000 for Senior Fellows who have taught in higher education for five or more years full-time and an increase in general endowment of two million dollars. Construction has advanced on a permanent home, the Heyman Center for the Humanities, named to honor David M. Heyman, a 1912 alumnus of Columbia College. In March the New York Foundation gave \$100,000 for the creation of a David Heyman Fellowship in Urban Studies, for post-doctoral study and teaching, with the design of promoting also undergraduate study of New York City's problems. The Society of Fellows is seeking endowment to continue the Heyman Fellowship after 1983-84.

Current Fellows are listed here with their respective departments or disciplines:

Renewed from 1977-78:

Anne Frydman (Kenan Fellow) - Slavic Languages
Ph.D. Columbia University

Judith Johnston - English and Comparative Literature
Ph.D. Stanford University

Myron Magnet - English
Ph.D. Columbia University

Richard McCoy - English
Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley

John Nassivera - Comparative Literature
Ph.D. McGill University

Jessie Ann Owens - Musicology
Ph.D. Princeton University

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First year appointment:

George Bournoutian - History
Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles
Armenian Fellow

Rubem Cesar Fernandes - History
Ph.D. Columbia University
(resigned after fall semester)

Amy Johnson - Comparative Literature
Ph.D. Harvard University

Charles Larmore - Philosophy
Ph.D. Yale University

Robin Lewis - English and Comparative Literature
Ph.D. Columbia University
(partially supported by NDEA Center for South Asian Studies)

Christian Murck - East Asian Studies
Ph.D. Princeton University

New Fellows appointed for 1979-80:

Robert A. Bauslaugh - Mediterranean History and Archaeology
Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley

Lorraine Daston - Philosophy of Science
Ph.D. Harvard University

Laurence Dreyfus (Kenan Fellow) - Musicology
Ph.D. Columbia University

Norbert Hornstein - Philosophy
Ph.D. Harvard University

Theodore Levin - Ethnomusicology
Ph.D. Princeton University

James Wendt - Sociology
Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley
David Heyman Fellow in Urban Studies

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Senior Fellows appointed for 1979-80:

David Johnson - East Asian Languages and Cultures
Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley

James Higginbotham - Philosophy
Ph.D. Columbia University

Alumni in 1978-79:

Elizabeth Bowen - Teaching at Tufts University

Joseph Masheck - Editor of Art Forum
Teaching in the Art History Department,
Barnard

David Macey - Teaching Russian History at Middlebury College

Suzanne Nalbantian - Teaching Comparative Literature at Long
Island University

Irene Bloom - Working on Sources of Neo-Confucianism, funded
by the National Endowment for the Humanities

Marie-Rose Logan - Teaching in the French Department,
Columbia University

Nancy Miller - Teaching in the French Department, Columbia
University

Fellows taught the following General Education and interdisciplinary
courses during 1978-79:

George Bournoutian:
Armenian W4101x-W4102y. Introduction to Armenian
Civilization

Armenian G4300y. The Emergence of Modern Armenia:
The Annexation of the Eastern Province to Russia

Rubem Fernandes:
Contemporary Civilization

Anne Frydman:
Humanities A - two semesters
Comp. Lit.-French-Russian W3520x. Explorers of the
Self in Western Literature (with Donald Frame)

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General Education and interdisciplinary courses during 1978-79
(continued):

Amy Johnson:
Humanities A - two semesters
Colloquium in the Humanities

Judith Johnston:
Humanities A - two semesters
Comp. Lit. W3550x. The Impact of the First World
War on European Culture

Charles Larmore:
Contemporary Civilization - two semesters

Robin Lewis:
Oriental Humanities - two semesters
English W3450x. Literature of the Empire
Indic W4215y. Modern Indian Fiction

Myron Magnet:
Contemporary Civilization - two semesters
English C3440y. Literature and Political Theory

Richard McCoy:
Humanities A - two semesters
English W3350x. Literature and Politics in 17th
Century England

Christian Murck:
Contemporary Civilization - two semesters
Oriental Humanities - two semesters

John Nassivera:
Humanities A - two semesters
Colloquium C3001x. The Classical World (with
Robert Belknap)

Jessie Ann Owens:
Music Humanities - two semesters
Italian-Music W3115x. Musical Settings of Italian
Renaissance Poetry

For 1979-80 the following new interdisciplinary courses have
been approved:

Seminar on the Development of Elite Culture Focusing on
Su Shih (1037-1101), His Circle, and Their World.
Christian Murck in collaboration with Marsha Wagner

New interdisciplinary courses approved for 1979-80 (continued):

Aristotelian Science and the Early Modern Scientific
Revolution. Charles Larmore

Philosophical Problems in Political Science. Charles
Larmore in collaboration with members of the Political
Science Department

All Mellon and Kenan Fellows will teach one course in General Education. Those not involved in interdisciplinary courses for 1979-80 will teach an additional, innovative course for one semester within their respective departments. Fellows are eminently suited for the interdisciplinary seminars on contemporary issues newly instituted for upper level students in Columbia College, and it is expected that they will make a substantial contribution to that program.

Besides individual research and individual and collaborative interdisciplinary teaching, the Society best carried out its purposes of clarifying and enhancing the role of the humanities in its monthly meetings, where the Fellows, senior faculty of the Governing Board, and guests come together at dinner to listen and discuss. The topics were chosen by a program committee of Fellows and senior faculty whose meetings were open to the entire membership. As in previous years, the topics at the dinner meetings ranged over many fields. Beginning with September, meetings explored approaches to text and languages in a range of humanistic disciplines:

September: Panel discussion on the Bakke Case
Profs. Louis Henkin, Walter Metzger, and
Albert Rosenthal
Moderator: Myron Magnet

October: "The Homeric Poems as Indirect Evidence of
an Oral Culture."
Prof. Luigi E. Rossi, Visiting Professor in
the Department of Greek and Latin from the
University of Rome
Moderator: Jessie Ann Owens

November: "How Historians Read a Text."
Discussion centered on J.G.A. Pocock's The
Machiavellian and Felix Gilbert's Machiavelli
and Guicciardini.
Profs. Eugene Rice, Jr. and Jacob W. Smit
Moderator: Christian Murck

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- December: "Modern Criticism: the State of the Art."
Profs. Michael Riffaterre, Edward Tayler
Moderator: Carl Woodring
- February: "Prima l'Opera e poi la Musica e le Parole."
Prof. Jack Beeson
Moderator: George Bournoutian
- March: "How a Painter and a Composer 'Read' the Same
Texts: the Evidence of a German Illuminated
Music Manuscript."
Dr. Jessie Ann Owens
Moderator: Christian Murck
- April: "Translating from Chinese and Japanese"
Profs. Donald Keene, Burton Watson
Moderator: Charles Larmore
- May: "The Self in Literature."
Drs. Anne Frydman, Richard McCoy, John Nassivera
Moderator: Charles Larmore

In January the Fellows met for a discussion at lunch with Philip Rieff, the principle speaker at the Lionel Trilling Seminar the previous evening. The Trilling Seminars greatly aid the Society in its purpose of achieving linkages and exchange among professions and disciplines.

The Fellows were active in intellectual events on Morningside Heights and as far away as Washington, D.C., Montreal, Canada, the U.S.S.R. and India. At the Sixtieth Anniversary Celebration of General Education in Columbia College, on 23rd-24th March 1979, Amy Johnson took part in a panel presentation on the curricular question, "Have the Cultural Assumptions of Humanities Changed?" During the discussion that followed, she was applauded for her remarks in defense of the course Humanities A. The contribution of the Society of Fellows to General Education was favorably described. During the commemoration, Judith Johnston gave a talk entitled "Remembering Great Wars." Members of the Governing Board took part in various panels.

An article by George Bournoutian entitled "The Administrative Structure of Eastern Armenia 1800-1828" appeared in the Winter 1978-79 issue of The Armenian Review. Four more of his articles on Eastern Armenia in the 19th century are scheduled to come out in 1979-80. Dr. Bournoutian is working on a book (Eastern Armenia Prior to the Russian Annexation: The Last Twenty Years of Persian Rule) which he expects to be published in the Persian Series of Columbia University Press. He attended the conference of the Middle

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Eastern Studies Association in Ann Arbor, Michigan and a symposium on "The Armenian Participation in the Democratic Process" at Columbia University. He read a paper entitled "The 150th Anniversary of the Annexation of Armenia to Russia" at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Columbus, Ohio. During 1978-79 Dr. Bournoutian traveled to Armenia in the USSR to obtain material for his book; over the summer of 1979 he did research on the Armenian diaspora in Greece, all of the Middle East, India, Southeast Asia, China, the Far East, and Australia.

Anne Frydman published an article about "Chekhov's Enemies" in Ulbandus Review. She also translated (with Jean Valentine) a Mandelstam poem which appeared in The American Poetry Review for March/April 1979. Dr. Frydman is preparing a paper to be delivered at the First International Chekhov Conference at Yale in March 1980, as well as working on a book about Chekhov called The Invisible Event. She attended the October 1978 conference about the "Fate of Individualism" at the School of Physicians and Surgeons.

In October of 1978 Amy Johnson gave a talk at the Humanities Luncheon on Aeschylus' Oresteia. She has been continuing her research on the pastoral genre, extending conclusions drawn from comparative analysis of the Theocritean and Vergilian models to an examination of English Romantic poetry (Wordsworth, Coleridge, Keats) in its focus on the poet in the natural landscape.

At the MLA Convention in December 1978, Judith Johnston organized and chaired a session on American Visionary History, which explored interrelations between American literature and American history. For the NEMLA Convention, which was held in March 1979, she organized and chaired a session on Historical Drama. In the session on World War I Literature, she read a paper on Celine's Journey to the End of the Night and Ford's Parade's End, entitled "Lunacy, Velocity, and the Pig with the Golden Wings." At the April 1979 symposium entitled "The Hero Who Deceives," sponsored by Columbia University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Medieval and Renaissance Studies Committee and by the Graduate Student Committee on English and Comparative Literature, Dr. Johnston gave a paper on Leopold Bloom entitled: "What in Bloo Blazes? Sauce for the Gander." Throughout the year she has continued her research and writing on her comparative study of French, German, British, and American literature about World War I. The working title is Chronicles of Armageddon: Studies in Literature of the Great War.

Over the past year Charles Larmore has written two papers: "Language and Action in Sophocles' Philoctetes" and "Descartes' Empirical Epistemology," which will be published in Descartes: Philosophy, Mathematics, and Physics (Harvester). He has given three

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talks: (1) "Descartes' Empirical Epistemology" to the Columbia Philosophy Department on December 7, 1978; (2) "Philosophical Problems in the Social Sciences" to the Columbia Political Science Department on February 20, 1979; and (3) "Descartes' wissenschaftliche Arbeit" to the Philosophy Department of Universität Bielefeld (West Germany) on June 19, 1979. A number of the essays of Niklas Luhmann have been translated by Dr. Larmore and will appear in a collection entitled Sociological Enlightenment to be published by Columbia University Press. Dr. Larmore attended the Philosophy of Science Convention in San Francisco from October 27th-29th, 1978 and spent the month of June 1979 studying at the Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Forschung at Universität Bielefeld.

Robin Lewis's book E.M. Forster's Passages to India was published in 1979 by Columbia University Press in New York and by Oxford University Press in Delhi. He has two works in progress: a study of contemporary Indian fiction written in English and "The Naipauls of Trinidad," a study of "East Indian" writing in Trinidad, where he spent the month of May 1979 doing research. In November 1978 Dr. Lewis delivered a paper on Paul Scott's The Raj Quartet at the Seventh Annual Wisconsin Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin in Madison; in January 1979 he delivered a paper entitled "E.M. Forster: The Indian Diary" at the E.M. Forster Centenary Seminar held at Osmania University, Hyderabad, India; in May 1979 he delivered a paper entitled "The Fictional Use of Forster's Indian Experience" at the E.M. Forster Centenary Conference held at Concordia University, Montreal.

Myron Magnet has been making substantial progress toward the completion of his book Dickens and the Nature of Society. His article on "Lord Chesterfield, Barnaby Rudge, and the History of Conscience" was very favorably reviewed in the spring 1979 issue of The Dickensian.

Richard McCoy's book Sir Philip Sidney: Rebellion in Arcadia was published in 1979 by Rutgers University Press. He has since been working on a study of 17th century heroism and the crisis of the aristocracy. During 1978 Dr. McCoy attended the following conferences: the English Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts in September; the Castiglione Conference and the Narcissism Conference both held in New York in October; the Conference on Narrative in New Brunswick, New Jersey in November; and the Modern Language Association in New York in December.

Christian Murck wrote a paper entitled "Su Shih's Reading of the Chung yung" for the ACLS conference on "Theories of the Arts in China" held at the Breckenridge Center of Bowdoin College in York, Maine from June 6th through 12th, 1979. He also prepared a piece on "The Wu-tsung Reign, 1505-21" for the Cambridge History of China

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(volume 7) which he presented in first draft form at the Ming History Project held at Princeton University on August 13th through 17th, 1979.

John Nassivera has a work in progress entitled Amo Ergo Sum, which involves an inquiry into certain aspects of medieval lyricism in relation to developments in psychoanalytic theory, particularly the work of Jacques Lacan. Dr. Nassivera is also the manager of the Dorset Playhouse in Vermont, where he and his wife have made plans for the development of a cultural center for independent study.

Jessie Ann Owens delivered a paper entitled "The Importance of Mus. Ms. B as a Source for the Motets of Cipriano de Rore," to the American Musicological Society Annual Meeting held in Minneapolis in October 1978. She delivered a second paper entitled "Beccari's Il sacrificio: Music in the Early Ferrarese Pastoral" to the International Congress on Renaissance Theater in Northern Italy held in New York in November 1978. Her paper will be published in the Acta of the Congress. Dr. Owens has researched and written reviews for Revisita Italiana di Musicologia on B. Meier, Die Tonarten der klassischen Vokalpolyphonie; H.-W. Gross, Klangliche Struktur und Klangverhältnis in Messen und Lateinischen Motetten Orlando di Lassos; and H. Leuchtmann, Orlando di Lasso: Sein Leben and Seine Briefe. Dr. Owens also sang in Capella Nova, a small chorus specializing in the performance of sacred music of the Renaissance.

To the Governing Board were appointed Jonathan R. Cole, Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Social Sciences, and Michael I. Sovern, Executive Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Provost. Dr. Wm. Theodore deBary, John Mitchell Mason Professor of the University, who was on leave in Japan for the academic year, will return to active involvement in the Society as head of the Heyman Center. Upon the unanimous recommendation of the Governing Board of the Society of Fellows, acting through their Executive Committee, President McGill named Professor David Rosand the Chairman for a term of two years. The co-chairmen previously incumbent express their gratitude to all members for full cooperation and particularly to the Director, Loretta Nassar, for presiding triumphantly over welfare and cohesion from the founding of the Society until now.

Steven Marcus

Carl Woodring

August 1979