INCOMING DEAN

Professor Daniel McIntosh Appointed Dean of AHSS

Chancellor Bob Coombe and Provost Gregg Kvistad have appointed Professor Daniel McIntosh to the position of dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, effective July 1, 2014.

"Danny is a great teacher, scholar and engaged member of the University community," said Provost Kvistad. "His astonishing record of accomplishment, his achievements at the University and the extraordinary level of trust he has among his faculty and staff colleagues, make him an excellent choice to lead this large, complex and institutionally vital academic unit at the University of Denver."

After completing his PhD at the University of Michigan, McIntosh joined the department of psychology at DU in 1992 and was promoted to full professor in 2007. Between 2008 and 2012, he served as director of the University’s Honors Program. In 2012, his psychology colleagues elected him chair of the department. McIntosh is the author of more than 70 scholarly articles and the recipient of 13 different research grants from extramural funding sources.

“I am thrilled and honored to be chosen for this position. The AHSS community embraces world-class scholars and artists collaborating with students in innovative and engaged education. I look forward to working with the students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of AHSS in moving our departments, programs and the university forward during this exciting time in higher education,” said McIntosh. Read more...

PHD FELLOWSHIPS

2014-2015 Fourth-year Doctoral Fellowship Recipients

Each year, AHSS is able to support several doctoral students who are working on their dissertations. The candidates submit an application packet to their departmental faculty, who nominate the finalists for these awards. The awards provide one year of support for research and writing. This year, two students from the English department and two from communication studies were selected to receive fourth-year fellowships.
Joe Lennon and Kameron Bashi from the English department are working on creative
dissertations. Lennon’s collection of poetry entitled *DINOSAUR NAT’L* embodies themes of
travel, translation and “the gaps between languages and cultures.” Bashi’s novel, *The Pure
State*, interrogates issues of privilege, marginalization, and discrimination in the context of
a same-sex relationship.

In communication studies, Leah Seurer is investigating the impact that a mother’s
depression has on her children, and how the children perceive and make sense of that
depression. Salma Shukri’s dissertation explores the cultural identities of Arab-Americans in
the United States, and how these identities impact their participation in their communities.

“The four recipients’ projects demonstrate just a small sample of the breadth of research
carried out by AHSS graduate students. Please join us in congratulating them on their
fellowship awards!” said Dean Rob Roberts.

### LAMONT SESQUICENTENNIAL CONCERT

**Celebrating DU's 150th Anniversary**

The Lamont School of Music will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the University of Denver
and the retirement of long-standing cello faculty, Richard Slavich, in a **Sesquicentennial
concert** on May 29. The Lamont Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Lawrence Golan, will
perform Richard Strauss’ epic tone poem, *Don Quixote*, featuring Richard Slavich, cello, and
will combine with the Lamont Chorale, Women’s Chorus and Men’s Choir for Gabriel Fauré’s
Requiem, conducted by Catherine Sailer.

Strauss depicts the character of Don Quixote with solo cello “in his adventures with
windmills, armies of sheep and enchanted boats with some of the most beautiful, sensuous
music in the entire cello repertoire,” according to Slavich. “I’ve wanted to play *Don Quixote*
since I was in graduate school, and now 40 years later, in my farewell concert at DU, the opportunity finally arises.”

Equally excited about this opportunity, Conductor Golan notes that with this performance of
*Don Quixote*, “we are celebrating the sesquicentennial of both DU and the birth of the
composer [in] 1864, as well as the retirement of longtime beloved cello professor Richard
Slavich.” He added that it is “an absolute honor for the orchestra and me to be involved
with these historic celebrations.” [Read more...](#)

### ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

**Gems, Jazz and the Atomic Bomb: Alum Tackles Microminerals and Music**

When retired physicist James Hurlbut (MA ‘49, liberal arts) moved
to Denver from Wisconsin with his wife in 1946, he had no idea
what the future held for him out west. What awaited him was a
long career as a successful nuclear physicist, a family business,
spending countless volunteer hours at the Denver Museum of
Nature and Science and even learning to play jazz.

Hurlbut had served as a naval pilot after graduating from the
University of Wisconsin with a degree in physics, but when he
moved to Denver, he found it difficult to find full time work.
Since he was in the navy and could get funding for further
education on the G.I. Bill, Hurlbut decided to return to school for
a Masters of liberal arts (emphasis in physics) at the University of
Denver.

Upon graduating, Hurlbut worked as a teacher at Englewood High School for two years.
However, “I wasn’t using my physics enough, so I got a job with the Lowry Air Force base
and worked on writing a 19-week radar course,” he said. Hurlbut taught the entire first
class and realized how he could tie his physics knowledge with his naval pilot
experience.  [Read more...](#)
**FACULTY SPOTLIGHT**

**Professor Takes Art to the Streets**

Conor McGarrigle, assistant professor in the emergent digital practices program, took to the streets of Denver on April 11 to draw a 26.2 mile line along Colfax Avenue that was then captured in a satellite photograph. This was the latest performance by the new media artist and researcher whose work examines the ways that digital technologies are integrated into everyday life.

“While talk of the digital revolution may be something of a cliché, we are nonetheless living through an accelerated pace of change to the point where thinking of a world without digital technology is almost unimaginable,” McGarrigle said. “My work reflects on these changes, examining the ways technology is now part of all aspects of our lives.”

McGarrigle walked the entire length of Colfax in just under nine hours, beginning on the eastern plains, winding his way through the heart of downtown and finishing on the west side. He pushed a line-marking device along the route, creating one of the largest drawings ever made. The line was then captured in a commissioned high-resolution satellite photograph. [Read More...](#)

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**GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**

**PhD Student Finds Success with First Novel**

TaraShea Nesbit, 3rd year PhD student in English, is the author of *The Wives of Los Alamos*, a novel about the making of the atomic bomb from the perspective of the nuclear scientists’ wives, who were unaware of what their husbands were building. Nesbit developed the novel during her first two years as a PhD student at DU.

“To write it I traveled several times to Los Alamos, New Mexico,” said Nesbit. “I sifted through archives at the Los Alamos Historical Society and listened to oral histories from the scientists’ wives. I read memoirs, physics books and history books about WWII.”

Nesbit’s research and dedication paid off. Her novel was published in February and has been reviewed in *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Columbus Dispatch*, *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, *O Magazine*, *Nature*, *Entertainment Weekly* and *People Magazine*, among others. [Read More...](#)

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**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**

**Senior Finds Niche in Gender and Women’s Studies**

Julia Seldin has found a good fit in the gender and women’s studies (GWST) program at DU. She was first drawn to the interdisciplinary nature of the program, and thrived on the variety of humanities classes it offers. Along the way her love for the GWST community grew, as well as her passion for gender studies and feminism. Seldin hopes that her senior thesis will help to demystify third-wave feminism.

“As a highly fragmented and individualistic movement, third-wave feminism is often discussed in vague and non-committal terms. To many, this has made the movement seem weak, unnecessary or, dare I say, even old-fashioned in a post-feminist reality,” said Seldin.
First-wave feminism laid the foundation for the feminist movement in the late 19th century with a focus on suffrage and legal opportunities for women. Second-wave feminism emerged in the early 1960's and widened the debate to include issues of sexuality, family, the workplace and reproductive rights. Third-wave feminism gained momentum in the early 1990's and focuses on issues that limit or oppress women as well as other marginalized identities. Read More...

FEATURED EVENTS

THEATRE: May 1-3 and 22-24, 7:30 p.m. — Senior Capstone Festival
Seniors direct one-act plays using the theatrical skills, techniques, perspectives and styles learned from the theatre program. Titles include The New New, Dr. Faustus, Mental Reservations, WASP, The Myth of Pegasus and The Fahrenheit Project. Performances held in the Byron Theatre, Newman Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are $10 and can be purchased online.

LIVINGSTON LECTURE: May 5, 2014, 5:30 p.m. — AHSS Alumni Reception and Livingston Lecture
Join us for the free AHSS alumni reception and John C. Livingston Lecture. Connect with AHSS alumni, faculty and students during the reception (complimentary hors d'oeuvres and open bar). Then hear from Elizabeth Karlgodt, associate professor of history, about the men and women who inspired George Clooney's recent film, The Monuments Men. Held in the Sturm Hall Davis Auditorium. RSVP today!

FACULTY LECTURE: May 8, 2014, 4:00-6:00 p.m. — The Global Environment Crisis and Limits to China's Economic Growth
China’s process of development during the era of economic reform has relied on rapid economic growth and an intensive use of environmental resources. Could China still sustain this development model under the context of climate change and peak oil? Presented by Chiara Piovani, assistant professor in economics. This lecture will be held in the special events room, Anderson Academic Commons.

LECTURE SERIES: May 20-22, 2014 — Week of Jewish Philosophy
The Week of Jewish Philosophy is a three-day intensive series of lectures, seminars, and salons on themes of Jewish philosophy, religion, and theology, featuring visiting scholars from Princeton, Yale, University of Toronto and CU Boulder as well as DU. The intensive series of events addresses core questions about Judaism, including questions related to theology, ethics, covenant, religion, law, history, methodology, and praxis. Click here for more information. RSVP at cjs@du.edu.

CONCERT: May 22-23, 7:30 p.m. — 4th Annual Music Theatre Cabaret
Musical Theatre students perform Broadway classics. Performances held in the Hamilton Recital Hall, Newman Center for the Performing Arts. Free admission, but tickets are required through the Newman Center Box Office.