CONFERENCE

HUMANITIES AND THE PUBLIC UNIVERSITY
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 12PM-5PM
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 8:30AM-5PM
107 CAPEN HALL

MICHAEL BÉRUBÉ
PENNSTATE UNIVERSITY

SHANNON JACKSON
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA – BERKELEY

JULIE ELLISON
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

SHEILA SLAUGHTER
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

AND MORE

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

“Humanists create meaning, not knowledge.” If you attended HI’s “Publics / Intellectuals / Humanities” workshop in November, you heard UB English PhD John McGowan make this provocative statement. McGowan, former Director of UNC’s Institute for the Arts and Humanities, meant that humanists don’t generate discrete facts through empirical observation the way scientists do. Rather, we illuminate the context of those observations by situating them historically, by probing the discourses in which they’re communicated, and by uncovering the structures of power that privilege the creation of certain facts over others.

You may find McGowan’s pronouncement a persuasive, even arresting formulation. You may think it’s hogwash. Whatever your view, if you were at the workshop you sat up and took notice as McGowan and his fellow panelists offered this and many other thought-provoking analyses about the role of the humanities in public universities. You listened because few topics are as relevant to so many of us: faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates. If we can’t convincingly convey what we do, how can we expect taxpayers and legislators to support us?

If you missed the November event, or simply want more, you’re in luck. The conversation continues with a workshop in March on “Academic Capitalism.” And on April 16 and 17 HI’s annual conference brings an extraordinary array of speakers to campus for “Humanities and the Public University.” See inside this brochure for more details.

Please join the discussion – and make some meaning with us.

Erik R. Seeman
ARTICULATING ETHNICITY: LANGUAGE AND THE BOUNDARIES OF THE HIMALAYAS

Saturday, April 18
280 Park Hall
9am – 4pm

KEYNOTE:
ANGEL VIÑAS
UNIVERSITY OF MADRID

“RECasting NATIONAL IDENTITIES IN EUROPE IN THE WAKE OF SCOTLAND AND CATALONIA”
FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 6PM
CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ROOM 112

SUNY CONVERSATIONS IN THE DISCIPLINES CONFERENCE

PRESENTERS:
DEBORAH ALTAMIRANO, SUNY-PLATTSBURGH
MARILYN DESMID, BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY
THOMAS DUNK, OWICK UNIVERSITY
KIMBERLY HUKE, BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE
ERLEIGH LYN, FREDONIA STATE COLLEGE
SHARON D. MURRAY, SUNY COLLGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
SCOTT MIRANDA, SUNY-CORTLAND
JOHN D. OCCIPINTI, CANISIUS COLLEGE
THOMAS WILSON, BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY