**Wasch Center for Retired Faculty**

**Annual Report**

**2023-2024**

**Introduction**

We have had a good year at the Wasch Center. It is now 20 years since the Center was founded and four years since the onset of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, and in the spirit of renewal we have made some improvements to the house and introduced informal gatherings to encourage the conviviality for which the Center used to be known. Our lecture series and the Wesleyan Wasch Center Seminars have drawn good audiences and been well received.

We have also suffered a considerable number losses from our ranks: Sheila Murphy (7/14/23), Stew Novick (10/9/23), Richard Buel (11/22/23), Erness Brody (12/26/23), Herb Arnold (1/ 7/ 24), Al Fry (2/1/24), and, most recently, Alice Hadler (5/29/24). Two of the deceased had particular connections to the Wasch Center. Sheila taught writing and poetry in the Wesleyan Institute for Lifelong Learning between 2010 and 2014, and Russ, her husband of 64 years, was slated to move into an office, but had to give up that plan because he could not risk exposing Sheila to COVID. Herb not only co-directed WILL for several years; he also regularly offered courses, drawing on his vast knowledge of German and European literature, philosophy, and history from the early Middle Ages to the modern era.

**I. Facilities Renewal**

In June the fire-safety system at the Wasch Center was replaced, and new carpet has just been installed in all the third-floor offices, the hallways on all three floors, the Butterfield Room, and the elevator, as well as on the front staircase. Touch-up patching and painting, especially needed on the first floor, is scheduled for August. During the winter break we had the cabinet in the Butterfield Room that was full of obsolete and frustratingly unreliable electronic equipment removed; with the replacement equipment we can now easily connect to the Internet and project slides and files from speakers’ laptops, thumb drives, or the cloud onto the large screen. Both the Lecture Series and the Wasch Seminars are already benefiting from this upgrade. We have also invested in a microphone, which will come in handy. It has not escaped my notice that some of our older audience members have difficulty hearing speakers who do not use “classroom voices.”

**II. Informal Social Events**

To bring the office-occupants together, in November we had an indoor Fall Picnic, featuring an assortment of salads prepared by the Cooking Company. In January, February, and April we had mid-afternoon Tea and Sherry Hours (the sherry was a fond tribute to the late Willie Kerr). It was gratifying to see the newer residents and those of longer standing getting to know each other. These get-togethers will continue in the coming year, with the schedule being announced at the beginning of each semester. Other types of gatherings, with invitations going to the office-occupants and retirees who still live nearby, will be discussed in the fall with the Advisory Board and the residents.

For the second year in a row, we organized a little going-away party on the Friday before Commencement for our student IT assistant. This year we were splendidly served by Aaron Berson ’24, who not only supported our course instructors and lecturers and recorded the lectures for posting on our site, but also held drop-in hours for members of the Wasch Center seeking to improve their skills. Aaron’s intelligence, competence, and encouraging, kind, and tactful manner were heartily appreciated by those of us who are often baffled and dismayed by the confusing changes in technology. A neuroscience major with a distinguished academic and co-curricular record at Wesleyan, Aaron will be starting a Ph.D. program at the University of Pennsylvania in the fall, taking a considerable number of his courses in the medical school. He has left a lasting impression on us, and we have reason to expect that he will make a name for himself in the future.

**III. Programming**

The Wasch Center’s prominent contributions to the intellectual life of the campus and the region continue to be the Lecture Series and the Wesleyan Wasch Center Seminars (formerly Wesleyan Institute for Lifelong Learning).

**1) The Lecture Series**

In the fall, the Lecture Series, ably curated by Duffy White, offered the following presentations:

**September 30**: Dr. Steve Bank, “How Not to Tell a Joke”

**October 4**: Joe Rouse, A talk on his recent book, *Social Practices as Biological Niche Constructions*

**November 15**: Bruce Masters, “Israel/Palestine: 75 Years of Misconceptions and Misunderstandings”

**November 29**, Sari Rosenblatt, “A Reading from a Not-Yet-Published Work”

The spring Lecture Series featured the following presentations:

**February 28**: Amrita Sanyal, “The Under-Representation of Women in STEM Fields”

**March 27**: Hari Ramesh, “Directed Association”

**April 16**, Vijay Pinch, “The 2024 Elections in India: Politics, Process, Prognosis”

**May 13**, Paula Paige, “A Reading from *Ghost Story*”

The standing-room-only talk by Bruce Masters, held in Exley 121, deserves particular mention. Speaking without notes just a little over a month after the horrific Hamas attacks in Israel, Bruce gave a dazzlingly detailed account of the 75 years of conflict. Without taking sides, he also avoided the pretense of having no point of view on the history he was recounting. The audience listened in rapt attention. After the talk, an unmistakably partisan alumnus chimed in on Zoom, trying to provoke Bruce, who handled the intervention calmly and firmly. The video recording of the talk can be viewed on the Center’s Web site.

Whenever possible after the lectures, Duffy White and Izzy Guy hosted the speakers for dinner at their house on Mt. Vernon St. These occasions were memorable for the delicious food and lively conversation, and especially for the welcoming atmosphere the hosts created.

**2) The Wesleyan Wasch Center Seminars**

Rick Friswell and I continue to serve as co-directors of this program. As in years past, Rick demonstrated an uncanny ability to identify promising instructors and persuade them to teach for us. My role consisted primarily of revising and editing the course descriptions and pinning down administrative details, although I did recommend some of the topics and instructors. Our administrative assistant, Elizabeth Moemeka, provided indispensable technical support and budget-tracking, as well as excellent suggestions on many aspects of the program.

As time allowed, I again registered for courses that particularly appealed to me. The quality of the instruction and the knowledge and enthusiasm the students brought to the discussions were consistently impressive, and the (anonymous) evaluations we received confirmed that the participants’ experiences had been very positive on the whole.

Organizing multi-instructor courses inevitably proves labor-intensive, but the resulting richness in perspectives makes the effort worthwhile. We have backed away from the daylong course that was once a standard feature of at least one semester every year because we have not had consistent success at getting people to commit to spending an entire Saturday discussing one topic.

Under the overarching theme of **Aware**ness (a sly reference to the positive connotations of “wokeness”), the fall line-up featured the following courses:

**1.** **Rhea Higgins, Instructor**

**Baroque Goes North: Dutch, Flemish, French, and English Art in the 17th century** (3 90-minute sessions)

**2.** **Elizabeth Bobrick, Instructor**

**Writing Flash Nonfiction: The Micro Personal Essay**

(6 120-minute sessions)

**3. Tom Christopher, Instructor**

**Garden Revolution: Landscape as Environmental Renewal** (5 90-minute sessions)

**4. Richard Voigt, Instructor**

***“POW!”* American Pop Artists in Mid-20th Century** (4 120-minute sessions)

*Cancelled for lack of registrants.*

**5.** **Rick Friswell, Instructor**

**Rise of Autocracy: Creative Expression in Times of Extremism** (4 120-minute sessions)

**6. Voices of the Enslaved**: Five instructors with Rick Friswell as moderator (5 90-minute sessions)

• **John Mills,** an independent historian**,** related the story of Prince Mortimer of Middletown, after whom the City’s Rapallo Avenue will soon be named in the first such honorary designation approved by the Common Council.

• **Pat Wilson Pheanious**, board chair of the Connecticut Witness Stone project and the ninth-generation descendant of enslaved persons from Guilford, spoke on researching her family history and discovering new aspects of her own identity.

**• Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti—**a last-minute replacement Rick Friswell found for someone who had initially agreed to participate but then never responded to his follow-up messages—is a living-history actor and historian. She presented a spell-binding reenactment of a person enslaved in Connecticut and this month joined Rick in a Juneteenth event at the Hudson Museum, embodying Harriet Tubman (<https://www.hrm.org/events/reflections-of-the-civil-war-motifs-in-hudson-river-landscapes/>).

• **Kate Rushin,** now a poet-in-residence and professor at Connecticut College, described her collaboration, started during the height of the pandemic, with three other Connecticut poets and a historian in an undertaking sponsored by the Witness Stones Project. It entailed studying the lives of persons enslaved in Connecticut and giving voice to their lives through poetry.

• **Tom Schuch**’s research played a crucial part in the creation of New London’s Black Heritage Trail. He told the story of a New London slave-ship captain who was killed in an uprising of African captives on his ship on the coast of Africa in 1763.  
  
**7. Steve Broker, Instructor**

**How to Study Birds** (3 120-minute sessions and 2 fieldtrips)

Broker (Wesleyan ’69 and MAT ’71) is a retired science educator, very prominent in ornithological circles in Connecticut and beyond.

**8. Mark Twain (Part 2): Fresh Perspectives on his Late 19th-Century World**

3 Instructors (3 90-minute sessions)

• **Rick Friswell, Instructor**

**Twain and his Anti-Imperialist League: Colonialism in 1900**

• **Sean McCann, Instructor**

***Pudd'nhead Wilson***

• **Mallory Howard, Assistant Curator at the Mark Twain House & Museum, Instructor**

**Notes to Self: Mark Twain in the margins of his library collection**

**9. Seminar on CT History: In Search of Our Collective Memory** (5 120-minute sessions)

• **Glenn Kreisberg, Instructor**

**The Hammonasset Line: The Mystery of Connecticut’s Ancient Stone Cairns**

**• Rick Friswell, Instructor**

**Middletown’s Samuel Russell and the China Opium Trade**

**• Nick Bellantoni, CT State Archaeologist emeritus, Instructor**

**“And so the Tomb Remained”: Archaeology, Forensic Science, & Connecticut's Historic Family Mausoleums**

• **Manuel Lizarralde, Instructor**

**Rediscovering the Lost Languages and Arts of Connecticut’s Indigenous Communities**

• **Alain Munkittrick, Instructor** (Wesleyan ’73)

**Architectural Treasures of the Connecticut River Valley**

Here is the spring line-up:

**1. Steve Bank, Instructor** (5 120-minute sessions)

**Sibling relationships: Exploring a unique family bond**

*Cancelled for lack of enrollment.*

**2. Richie Adelstein, Instructor**

**Due Process of Law: Interpreting the 14th Amendment** (5 120-minute sessions on Zoom from Richie’s new home in Louisville KY)

**3. Kathleen Housley, Instructor**

**Written in Stone, Painted in Fire: Geology’s influence on 19th-c. New England Writers & Artists** (4 120-minute sessions)

**4. Laura Pirie, Instructor**

**Place Settings: What we build tells stories about what we value** (3 120-minute sessions)

**5. Peter Glass, Instructor**

**Digital Photography: An introduction to 35mm basics** (3 120-minute sessions and one field trip) *Cancelled for lack of enrollment.*

**6. Marcella Trowbridge, Instructor**

**The Bard Embodied: Shakespeare Alive!**(3 120-minute sessions

**7. Sari Rosenblatt, Instructor**

**Writing Workshop: If Not Now…** (6 120-minute sessions)

**8. Steve Broker, Instructor**

**How to Study Birds:  CT’s forests, farm fields, & freshwater wetlands** (3 120-minute sessions and two field trips)

**9. Rick Friswell, Instructor**

**Salmagundi: A miscellany of the trivial & fascinating** (5 120-minute sessions)

**10.** **Rhea Higgins, Instructor**

**Rococo & Revolution: French painting in the 18th and early 19thcentury**(3 90-minute sessions)

The full descriptions of this year’s courses, as well as those from all the previous years, should be available on line, but since the departure of Pat Leone from ITS they have disappeared, for reasons not entirely clear. We have received a solemn promise from Pat’s successor that the information is not lost and will be restored in the not-too-distant future.

While every semester some courses fill up quickly, others lag, and, as the listing above indicates, have to be cancelled for lack of sufficient enrollment. In addition to encouraging our students to urge their friends and family members to join them in enrolling, we plan to impress upon the instructors the importance of spreading the word in their circles. Along with e-mail blasts to announce our upcoming offerings and remind the recipients to enroll, we continue to use a handsome large-format postcard, distributed by mail and dropped off in local libraries and coffee shops by Rick. The postcard has been designed up through the 2023 fall term by Anne Marcotty, whose example Bethany Synott followed with notable success when she took over for the 2024 spring term. We are very grateful for the continuing support we receive from Communications. Imelda Mongillo manifests clear thinking, organizational skill, and an unfailingly constructive attitude as she leads the team with whom we work.

**IV. Celebration of Retiring Faculty**

After having to cancel the celebration last year because only two of our invitations were accepted, this spring we had a successful, though scaled-back, gathering for John Bonin, retiring this year, and Fred Ellis and Irina Russu, who retired last year. We dispensed with the tent, rented chairs, lectern, microphone, and refreshments catered by Bon Appétit, and instead accommodated the honorees, their *laudatores,* and the guests in the Butterfield Room and on the side porch. The refreshments I provided were well received, and the conversation before and after the speeches was lively. In skimming annual reports from before my time as Director I have discovered that not having enough honorees to justify an elaborate event is not a new, post-pandemic phenomenon. I am grateful for the Advancement Office’s continued support of the reception, and while I look forward to times when it can be larger, I no longer feel that skipping a year or hosting a more modest event represents a failure.

**V. Other Uses of the Facility**

With the onset of the pandemic, the Quaker meeting ceased to take place at the Center and has not returned., but the Center continues to welcome individuals and groups from the campus and beyond.

• This year, as last year, the Physics Department held its weekly noon meeting on Wednesdays at the Center.

• In the fall the Board of the Middlesex County Historical Society, to which I belong, met once at the Center. The members enjoyed being in the Butterfield Room, spacious by comparison with the cramped quarters in the Mansfield House. Unfortunately the Board meets on Thursday evenings, a time when many of our Wasch Seminar courses are scheduled. During the months when no courses take place, I will again invite the Board to the Center.

• In May we again enjoyed a concert of Jane Alden’s Collegium Musicum that featured music from the Middle Ages to works by Richard Winslow.

• When the City’s Public Works Director retired this spring, I hosted gathering in his honor during which all the rooms on the first floor were pressed into service.

• The Center also provides a venue for tutorials offered under the auspices of the Emeritus College, and for small meetings organized by occupants of the Center’s offices.

• For several years Wesleyan’s student fire-spinning and performance group Prometheus, established in 1997, has practiced in the Center’s parking lot. To make sure there will be no Wasch Center Seminar participants’ cars still parked in the lot when the rehearsals begin, I have asked to be notified when they are being scheduled. The students have been punctilious and courteous, and only once has a small quantity of debris been left behind.

**VI. Offices**

The newest occupant of an office will be John Bonin, sharing Gary Yohe’s cubicle in Room 211. Tony Infante is reluctantly but graciously moving out of the third-floor office he has shared with Allan Berlind. Several other occupants no longer drive, but only one of them has voluntarily relinquished office space. As tactfully as possible, I will remind those no longer using their offices regularly that others may wish to have a chance to join the Wasch Center community.

**VII. Emeritus College**

Now that Richie Adelstein has moved to Kentucky, Bruce Masters has agreed to take over administration of the Emeritus College. Last year I surveyed the colleagues who were listed as available and approved by their departments, and removed some who no longer wanted to offer tutorials or supervise theses. Bruce’s main duties will consist of keeping the list up to date, encouraging newly retired faculty members to volunteer, and overseeing the process by which departments authorize the participation of retired colleagues and make students aware that they are available. The number of tutorials this year was small; I hope to see an increase under Bruce’s able leadership.

**VIII. Oral History Program**

Allan Berlind has continued to arrange oral-history interviews of retired faculty and administrators at the rate of four or five a year. He works with a small number of experienced interviewers, paid from the Wasch Center budget, with a very welcome annual contribution from the Library. A few months ago we received the happy news that the backlog of interviews awaiting posting on the Web had been cleared at long last (<https://digitalcollections.wesleyan.edu/object/wessca-ohp>). Very varied in tone and focus, these 61 interviews provide fascinating insights into the interviewees’ lives and careers against the backdrop of Wesleyan, starting in the mid- 20th and extending into first two decades of the 21st century. The very recent death of Colin Campbell serves as a reminder of how valuable these oral histories are; his interview, conducted in 2016 by Suzy Taraba, offers a wonderful portrait of the man and the characteristics that made him an outstanding president.

Allan has pointed out the oddity that the interviews are listed in alphabetical order according to the interviewees’ first names, but thus far no correction has occurred.

**IX. Administrative Support**

The Center continues to share with Neuroscience and Behavior the time of Elizabeth Moemeka, who spends Mondays and Fridays at the Center. On other days she can easily cross the street from the NS&B office in Hall-Atwater when her presence is needed, and she balances the demands of her two positions so ably that her supervisors have not needed to confer.

**X. Plans for the Coming Year**

My plans include producing at least one catch-up issue of the newsletter, reconstituting and activating the Advisory Board, updating the Center’s Web site, and strengthening collaboration with the Office of Faculty Career Development and Human Resources to make sure faculty have the information they need to plan for retirement.

Maintaining and increasing enrollment in the Wasch Center Seminars should receive concentrated attention.

To the extent possible, I plan to create a comprehensive calendar for the Center, to be distributed each semester in advance.

A more mundane project involves returning to a chore that had to be postponed when the Center closed in March 2020: assessing all the furniture, books, files, and random items that have accumulated in the basement over the years and clearing out the space. The culling of the haphazard assortment of books in the Creeger Room needs to be completed, and the accumulations in office closets call for attention as well.

**Conclusion**

Correspondence with a colleague at the University of Rhode Island who is trying to establish an institution like the Wasch Center reminded me this year of how fortunate we are at Wesleyan that two decades ago the thoughtfulness and generosity of the Wasches and the creativity and determination of Karl Scheibe made the Center for Retired Faculty a reality. The value of this resource deserves to be cherished, safeguarded, and enhanced, and I am honored to be be part of that effort.

Respectfully submitted,

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Krishna Winston,

Director

**Appendix I: Program for May 2024 Celebration of Retiring and Recently Retired Faculty**

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**The Wesleyan University Office of Advancement**

**and**

**the Susan B. and William K. Wasch Center for Retired Faculty**

**are pleased to honor the following faculty members**

**on the occasion of their retirement:**

a **Retired in 2024** b

**John Bonin**, celebrated by Abigail Hornstein

a **Retired in 2023** b

**Fred Ellis**, celebrated by Lutz Hüwel

**Irina Russu**, celebrated by Krishna Winston

a **and, in absentia**, b

**Bermardo Antonio González** (2024)

**Adam Fieldsteel** (2024)

**Oliver Holmes** (2024

**Jeffrey Schiff** (2024)

**Amy Bloom** (2023)

**Steven Devoto** (2023)

**Janice Naegele** (2023)

**Peter Solomon** (2023)

**Stewart Novick** (deceased) (2023)

**Appendix II: Current Occupants of Wasch Center Offices**

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| **Wasch Center Directory 2023–24** | |  |  |  |
| **Staff & Faculty** | **Office Phone #** | **Room #** | **Email** | **Cell #** |
| (AA) Moemeka, Elizabeth | 3005 (3237) | Lobby | emoemeka@wesleyan.edu | 860-967-9424 |
| Berlind, Allan | 3483 | 306 | aberlind@wesleyan.edu | 603-393-0277 |
| Bonin, John |  | 211 | jbonin@wesleyan.edu |  |
| Dupuy, Alex | 2952 | 307 | adupuy@wesleyan.edu | 860-214-1574 |
| Friswell, Richard |  | 208 | rfriswell@wesleyan.edu | 203-530-9811 |
| Hager, Anthony | 2257 | 210 | [ahager@wesleyan.edu](mailto:ahager@wesleyan.edu) |  |
| Lowrie, Joyce | 3099 | 301 | jlowrie@wesleyan.edu |  |
| Masters, Bruce | 2395 | 210 | bmasters@wesleyan.edu | 860-754-8003 |
| Paige, Paula | 2956 | 211 | ppaige@wesleyan.edu | 860 372-0265 |
| Rosenthal, Rob | 2943 | 210 | rrosenthal@wesleyan.edu | 860-301-8753 |
| Samuel, Yoshiko | 3539 | 204 | ysamuel@wesleyan.edu | 860-301-3064 |
| Scheibe, Karl | 2273 | 309 | kscheibe@wesleyan.edu | 860-514-4728 |
| Schwartz, Nancy | 2489 | 204 | nschwartz@wesleyan.edu | 860-656-5986 TEXT ONLY |
| Scowcroft, Philip | 2172 | 308 | [pscowcroft@wesleyan.edu](mailto:pscowcroft@wesleyan.edu) |  |
| Thomas, Ellen | 3630 | 211 | ethomas@wesleyan.edu |  |
| Varekamp, Johan |  | 211 | [jvarekamp@wesleyan.edu](mailto:jvarekamp@wesleyan.edu) |  |
| White, Duffy | 3126 | 208 | dwhite@wesleyan.edu | 860-508-5912 |
| Winston, Krishna | 3378 | 208 | [kwinston@wesleyan.edu](mailto:kwinston@wesleyan.edu) | 860-918-8713 |
| Yohe, Gary | 2482 | 211 | [gyohe@wesleyan.edu](mailto:gyohe@wesleyan.edu) |  |
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**Appendix III: 2022–23 Retired Faculty Updates on Professional Activity**

**N.B.** The information in this appendex and the following has been edited only minimally.

**Alex Dupuy**

On March 23-24, 2023, I presented a paper on “Haiti and the Indemnity Question” at a conference on Haiti I was invited to participate at the Miami University Law School. The paper dealt with the indemnity Haiti paid to France in 1825 in return for its recognition of Haiti’s independence and its consequences for Haiti’s economic development in the 19th century. It will be published in the next issue of the law school’s **Inter-American Law Review**, Volume 55.

My new book, *Haiti Since 1804: Critical Perspectives on Class, Power, and Gender*, will be published by Rowman & Littlefield in February 2024. I have to do some revisions based on the comments and suggestions from reviewers and submit the manuscript by mid-August.

**Stew Gillmor:**

The only thing I did this year was write the foreword to an extended English edition of *Coulomb’s Memoirs on Torsion, Electricity, and Magnetism,* a translation from the French of the memoirs of Charles-Augustin de Coulomb (1736–1806), edited, with critical notes, by A.K. T. Assis, a Brazilian physicist and MIT engineer, published by Internet Archive (open-source). I also wrote a short article for the amateur radio journal *CQ*.

**Tony Hager:**

Hereditarily projectable l-groups with unit, Indag. Math., to appear (i.e., accepted),14 pp. (with Brian Wynne)

On minimum proper essential extensions in a category, Quest. Math. 46 (2023),495-512.

Minimum proper essential extensions in some lattices of algebras, Alg. Univ. 83 (2022),paper # 30, 21 pp. (With Brian Wynne)

Atoms in the lattice of covering operators in compact Hausdorff spaces, Top. Applic. 284 (2021), paper #107402, 9 pp. (With Brian Wynne)

Adjoining a strong unit to an archimedean lattice-ordered group, Order 38 (2021),455-472 (with **Philip Scowcroft**)

Comment (perhaps relevant to mentoring and devotion to Wesleyan): my co-author

Brian Wynne is a Wes Ph.D. 2005, student of Philip Scowcroft.

Service to the profession: numerous papers refereed (peer-reviewed by me).

**Charles Lemert:**

Shorter Writings

“Vibrations, Musical Differences, Life with Others,” in Dean Birkenkamp, editor, *The Many* *Worlds of David Amram / Renaissance Man of American Music*

“C. Wright Mills, Imagining an American New Left,” *Fast Capitalism* (July 2023*)*

“Margaret Fuller: Feminist Theory Years Ahead of Its Time,” *Fast Capitalism*

“Muhamad Ali,” *Oxford University Press Encyclopedia of Bibliographies*

“Charlotte Perkins Gilman,” *Oxford University Press Encyclopedia of Bibliographies* [reported before but revised again as the OUP editors for the publication come and go over the years, each with a different opinion about this or that.]

Books**:**

*Introduction to Contemporary Social Theory,* with Anthony Elliott (Routledge UK, 2e 2022)

*The Uncertain Future of Capitalism*, with Kristin Plys (Routledge US, 2022) [This book won honorable for the World-Systems ASA section book prizes.]

New Publishing Project:

*The New Order of Social Things—*A book series designed to introduce the work of still young scholars who rethinking a wider range of thought in the social and human sciences. Edited by Katharine Wallerstein, Waverly Duck, Kristin Plys, and Charles Lemert. We have already begun to develop or recruit books for the series including one by Sam Han, a 2006 Wesleyan alum—*The Concept of Tragedy: Its Importance for the Social Sciences in Unsettled Times.*

**Leo Lensing:**

*“Subiaco’s Unofficial Poet Laureate”*, my memoir of the American poet Frank Stanford (1947–1978), is forthcoming this fall with Foundlings Press in Buffalo. A review of two new translations of Felix Salten’s novel *Bambi. A Life in the Woods* (1923), the much changed model for the Disney film of 1942, is set to appear in the *Times Literary Supplement* in late September.

**Bruce Masters:**

In the past year, I submitted reviews of the following:

1) Faisal Husayn, *Rivers of the Sultan: The Tigris and Euphrates in the Ottoman Empire* (Oxford University Press) to *The American Historical Review*

2) Helen Pfeifer, *Empire of Salons: Conquest and Community in Early Modern Ottoman Lands*(Princeton University Press) to *The Journal of Ottoman and Turkish Studies*.

Both are currently in press and scheduled for publication this year. In Spring 2022, I taught ARAB311: Introduction to Colloquial Levantine Arabic I to 7 Wesleyan students. I am currently working on a textbook on Colloquial Levantine Arabic to be used when I next teach the course

**Priscilla Meyer:**

Participant in the first Nabokov Online Seminar (NOSE), March 28, 2023:“One Oozy Footstep: Roy Carswell’s portrait of Sebastian Knight and Frost’s 'For Once, Then, Something,’” to be published in the NOTES section of *The Nabokovian.*

Gave the keynote address at the conference “Hidden Nabokov”, Wellesley College, June 2022, to be published in *Nabokov Studies* (2024) as “The Hidden Nabokov.”

Article: “Russian Realism,” in *Realism and the Novel: A Literary History*. Edited by Paul Stasi. Forthcoming from Cambridge University Press.

Article: « European Literature, » with Melissa Frazier. In *Tolstoy in Context*. Edited by [Anna A. Berman](https://www.cambridge.org/core/search?filters%5BauthorTerms%5D=Anna%20A.%20Berman&eventCode=SE-AU). Cambridge UP, 2022.

Taught a tutorial for two Wesleyan undergrads: Nabokov and Cultural Synthesis, spring 2023

Teaching a tutorial in English to a Ukrainian woman through Literacy Volunteers since 2021

Sang the Brahms Requiem with the Middletown Chorale, in honor of David Morgan (April 30th)

**Ron Schatz:**

In March I (virtually) presented a paper entitled “James Caesar Petrillo, ‘the Mussolini of Music,’” to the Washington, D.C. Labor & Working-Class History Seminar.  I will be continuing my research on Petrillo.

I don’t remember whether I responded to your request last year. If not, you could mention that my book *The Labor Board Crew: Remaking Worker-Employer Relations from Pearl Harbor to* *the Reagan Era* (Chicago: U of Illinois P, 2021)

**Ellen Thomas:**

Award*:*

In January 2023 I was advised of having been awarded the 15th *BBVA Foundation Frontiers of Knowledge Award in the Category Climate Change*, together with my colleague Jim Zachos (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6bQdF_j9pHY>). I received the award during ceremonies in Bilbao, Spain, on June 20th 2023. https://www.frontiersofknowledgeawards-fbbva.es/version/edition\_2022/

Wasch Center Seminar:

I presented a seminar, *Stories of Lost Worlds*, on May 3, 10, 17, 24 2023: <https://www.wesleyan.edu/waschseminars/courses-items/2023-spring/lost-worlds.html>

Joe Webb Peoples Museum**:**

* I worked with 6 Wesleyan undergraduates on museum-related topics (see table).
* These students presented during the E&ES Open House (October 2022) and the Archaeology and Collections Public Open House (March 2023).
* All students were involved in the preparation and exhibit of: "*Crafting Sea Critters: A Look at Oceanic Ecosystems* " on display in Usdan, April 6 - May 9. This exhibit included specimens from the Joe Webb Peoples Museum, the George Brown Goode Biological Collections, and the Archaeology and Anthropology collections, and a multitude of community-made crocheted, knit and sewn 'critters'. <https://jwp.wescreates.wesleyan.edu/craftseacritters/> . Lily Rudofsky organized crochet-learning events for students.
* I was reader on the thesis by Fletcher Levy, *A Description of the Cranial Anatomy of a*
* *Specimen of the Gorgonopsian Lycaenops through CT Reconstruction*, for which he received high honors.
* Our museum group finished displays in the Exley lobby of giant clams and soft corals, as a complement to the photographs by Joshua Boger.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name, year** | **Major** | **Topic** | additional |
| Prakriti Mittal, '23 | Psychology | Green River Formation fossils | fall 2022 only |
| Fletcher Levy, '23 | E&ES, Biology | Agate Springs and other fossil mammals |  |
| Cole Goco, '23 | Biology, Film | Pierre Shale, ammonites, bivalves | artist of works displayed in Usdan |
| Alexandre Baker, '24 | History | fossils turtles, casts |  |
| Lily Rudofsky, '25 | E&ES, Biology | subrecent coral collections | main developer of crochet Usdan exhibit (incl. webpage); Exley display cabinets |
| Lilly Hochhauser, '25 | E&ES | Solnhofen collections, casts | organizer of Wesfest presentation |

Talks:

On 3 November 2022, I presented a lecture in Yale Earth and Planetary Sciences Course 621, “Earth Materials and Human Health,” on “Ocean Dead Zones: the Case of Long Island Sound.”

On November 29, December 1, and December 8, 2022, I presented lectures in Yale Earth and Planetary Sciences Course 625a, “Oceanography,” on “Paleoceanography,” “Oceanic Anoxic Events',”and ”Pleistocene Ice Ages.”

On March 5 and 7, 2023 I presented lectures in Yale Earth and Planetary Sciences Course 620b, 'Essentials of Earth and Planetary Sciences, both on “The Oceanic Carbon Cycle in a Greenhouse World: Export and Primary Productivity in the Oceans.”

On April 29, 2023 I presented a remote lecture for the American Museum of Natural History course for their after-school program for high school students “How to predict the future from the past: using foraminifera.”

Abstracts (Fall 2022-Spring 2023):

Tan, A. D. Y., Tan, Y. K., Pfeiffer, J, M., Burke, A. C., and Thomas, E., 2022. Cost of Living: Morphometry Reveals Patterns of Clinal Variations in US Freshwater Mussels (Family Unionidae). 2022 World Congress of Malacology, Ludwig Maximilianus Universität München, Germany, 1-5 August, 2022. *Spixiana*, suppl. 30A, p. 141.

Hull, P., Griffith, E., Winguth, A., and Thomas, E., 2022. Biological Pump Changes at Walvis Ridge and Shatsky Rise during Eocene hyperthermals. 12th International Conference on Climatic and Biotic Events of the Paleogene (CBEP 12), 22-25 August 2022, Abstract A144, p. 52.

Henehan, M., Barnet, J., Özen, V., Hull, P., Planavksy, N., Ridgwell, A., Rae, J., Littler, K., Hain, M. Thomas, E., Greene, S., van Blanckenburg, F., 2022. Insights into the Paleocene Carbon Cycle from Boron isotopes. 12th International Conference on Climatic and Biotic Events of the Paleogene (CBEP 12), 22-25 August 2022, Abstract A 210, p. 88.

Moretti, S., Auderset, A., Schmitz, R., Gerber, L., Thomas, E., Tripati, A., Sexton, P., Norris, R., Schiebel, R., Luciani, V., Petrizzo, M. R., Zachos, J., Sigman, D. M., Haug, G. H., and Martinez-Garcia, A., 2022. Foraminifera-bound nitrogen isotope evidence for reduced ocean suboxia during the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum. 12th International Conference on Climatic and Biotic Events of the Paleogene (CBEP 12), 22-25 August 2022, Abstract A 121, p. 109.

Adebowale, M., Thomas, E., Ridgwell, A., Cotton, L. J., and Schmidt, D. N., 2022, Life in a dark environment – what was the physiological and calcification response of benthic foraminifera to the environmental changes of the PETM. Abstract A 587; 14th International Conference on Paleoceanography, 29 August - 2 September 2022, Bergen, Norway, P3-067; p. 356.

Moretti, S., Auderset, A., Schmitz, R., Gerner, L., Thomas, E., Tripati, A., Sexton, P., Norris, R., Schiebel, R., Luciani, V., d'Onofrio, R., Petrizzo, M. R., Zachos, J., Sigman, D. M., Haug, G. H., and Martinez-Garcia, A., 2022. Collapse of equatorial Pacific oxygen deficient zones at the onset of the PETM. Abstract A-407; 14th International Conference on Paleoceanography, 29 August - 2 September 2022, Bergen, Norway, P03-64; p. 397.

Rae, J., Kirtland-Turner, S., Sexton, P., Adloff, M., Barnet, J., Dumont, M., Greenop, R., Henehan, M., Hodell, D., Holo, J., Hull, P., Jurikova, H., Kaminski, M., Kroon, D., Liebrand, D., Lourens, L., Meckler, A. M., Planavsky, N., Stoll, H., Strojie, W., Thomas, E., Wade, B., Westerhold, T., Whiteford, R., Burke, A., Greene, S., 2022. Deep ocean carbonate geochemistry over the Cenozoic. 14th International Conference on Paleoceanography, 29 August - 2 September 2022, Bergen, Norway, P1-118, p.117.

Henehan, M. J.; Barnet, J.; Kalderon-Asael, B.; Özen, V.; Rae, J.; Ridgwell, A.; Greene, S.; Thomas, E.; Littler, K.; Hain, M.; Witts, J.; Planavsky, N.; von Blanckenburg, F., Hull, P., 2022. Carbon Cycling at the Dawn of the Cenozoic, 14th International Conference on Paleoceanography, 29 August - 2 September 2022, Bergen, Norway. p. 16-17.

Greene, S.; Adloff, M.; Doherty, D.; Ridgwell, A.; Anagnostaou, E.; Babila, T.; Dunkley Jones, T.; Foster, G.; Greene, L.; Henehan, M.; Hoggett, M.; Hoogakker, B.; Jones, S.; Kirtland Turner, S.; Paelike, H.; Rae, J.; Schmidt, D.; Thomas, E.; and Whiteford, R.; 2022. The marine carbonate system is key to the past. 14th International Conference on Paleoceanography, 29 August - 2 September 2022, Bergen, Norway. p. 16-17, p. 17-18.

Henehan, M. J.; Barnet, J.; Kalderon-Asael, B.; Özen, V.; Hull, P., Planavsky, N.; Ridgwell, A.; Rae, J.; Witts, J.; Littler, K.; Greene, S.; Thomas, E.; Hain, M.; von Blanckenburg, F., 2022. Carbon Cycling at the Dawn of the Cenozoic. Topic 5.5; Abstract 586; GeoMinKoln2022, 11-15 September 2022, Cologne, Germany

Alegret, L., Burkett, A. M., Holbourn, A., Huber, B., Kuhnt, W., Thomas, E., and Young, J., 2022. An online database for Cretaceous to Cenozoic deep-sea benthic foraminifera. The Micropaleontological Society Annual Meeting, MARUM, Bremen, Germany, 9-11 November 2022.

Xue, P., Chang, L., Dickens, G., and Thomas, E., 2022. A depth-transect of ocean deoxygenation during the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum: magnetofossils in sediment cores from the Southeast Atlantic. AGU Fall Meeting, 2022. Session G002.

Arreguín-Rodríguez, G. J., Alvarado-Graef, P.,and Thomas, E., 2023. Recognizing effects of past warming in deep-sea ecosystems: evidence from benthic foraminifera. 5th International Symposium on Effects of Climate Change on the World's Ocean (ECCWO5), 17-21 April 2023, Bergen, Norway.

Rae, J., and the OldCO2NewArchives Collaborators., 2023. Cenozoic CO2: from the deep ocean to the atmosphere. EGU General Assembly, EGU23-9880; 23-28 April, Vienna, <https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-egu23-9880>

Schmidt, D. N., Adebowale, M., Thomas, E., Ridgwell, A., Cotton, L. J., 2023, Life in a dark environment: what was the physiological and calcification response of benthic foraminifera to the environmental changes of the Paleogene hyperthermals. Session CL1.1.2 – Climatic, tectonic, and biodiversity changes through hyperthermal intervals in Earth history, EGU23-9880; 23-28 April, Vienna; <https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-egu23-7633>

Schmidt, D. N., Adebowale, M., Flower, A. I., Thomas, E., Ridgwell, A., Cotton, L. J., and Witts, J., 2023. Life in a dark environment - physiological response of benthic foraminifera to the environmental changes of the Paleogene. FORAMS 2023, June 26-June 30, Perugia, Italy

Chang, L., Xue, P., Heslop, D., Roberts, A. P., Harrison, R. J., Dickens, G. R., Thomas, E., Hoogakker, B. B. A., DeDeckker, P., 2023, Magnetofossil reconstructions of ocean redox conditions through Cenozoic global warming. Australian Earth Sciences Convention, 27-30th June 2023, Perth, Australia

**Ruth Weissman:**

I continue to serve as editor-in-chief of the *International Journal of Eating Disorders* and published one paper:

 Weissman, R. S., & Hay, P. (2022). People's lived experience with an eating disorder during the COVID-19 pandemic: A joint virtual issue of research published in leading eating disorder journals. *The International journal of eating disorders*, *55*(2), 155–160. <https://doi.org/10.1002/eat.23653>.

**Krishna Winston:**

Translations**:**

Alexander Lernet-Holenia, *Baron Bagge*, trans. Richard and Clara Winston (1956), reprinted, with three letters of Stefan Zweig and A. Lernet-Holenia and a note by Arturo Larcati, trans. Krishna Winston (New York: New Directions, 2022)

Peter Handke, *Quiet Places: Collected Essays*, with one previously translated work, *Essay on the* *Jukebox (1997),* and two new ones, *Essay on Quiet Places* and *Essay on a Mushroom Maniac* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2022)

**Appendix IV: 2023–24 Retired Faculty Updates on Professional Activity**

**N.B. This report represents only information forwarded by the end of June 2024. If further reports arrive, the appendix will be revised to include them.**

**Alex Dupuy:**

On March 8, 2024, I participated in a discussion on BBC World Service on "The Real Story: Can Haiti Break Free from Its History?"

On March 15, 2024, I had an interview with Manon Globensky on the current situation in Haiti on Radio Canada that was broadcast on March 17.

**Joyce Jacobsen:**

My main news for the past academic year is the publication of my new book:  *All the Campus Lawyers: Litigation, Regulation, and the New Era of Higher Education* (with Louis H. Guard), (Cambridge: Harvard UP, 2024),343 pp.

**Nancy Schwartz:**

Nancy Schwartz advised a CSS senior thesis through the Emeritus College, and worked with Government to bring liberal and centrist Israeli speakers to campu—Alon Tal, Political Science, Tel Aviv University, and Haviv Rettig Gur, political analyst, *Times of Israel*.

**Johan (Joop) Varekamp:**

In academic year 2023-2024 I contnued as Smith Curator of Mineralogy and Petrology of the Joe Webb Peoples Museum of Natural History

Joe Webb Peoples Museum actvities(in collaboration with Ellen Thomas):

Music in Unexpected Spaces: organized by Visiting Assistant Professor of Music Ethan Philbrick, with bassist Brandon Lopez and musician and multimedia artist Cecilia Lopez MA ’16 (synthesizers): <https://newsletter.blogs.wesleyan.edu/2023/10/25/music-in-unexpected-spaces>

Open House: Homecoming October 28, 2023

Open House: in cooperation with Archaeology - March 2, 2024

I provided one “Specimen of the Month”: December 2023: Banded Iron Formation rock.

We loaned specimens to support Emmy Brockman, an early childhood educator, in her science activities for children, funded by the City of Middletown, in the Russell Library (Middletown).

We loaned specimens to Wesleyan students participating in the Traverse Square After-School Program

We are developing a new exhibit based on native copper specimens, mainly from Michigan.

We are involved in Kate Ten Eyck's program to decorate the RT9 underpass with materials documenting Middletown's history (ice ages, dinosaurs, lava flows, metamorphic rocks)

Private guided tour of the JWPNH Museum for a raffle ticket winner from a fundraiser at the Connecticut River Museum, June 29, 2024, 4 people.

Scientific and Outreach Activities:

Three manuscripts are in the final stages of completion:

Gutmann J.T., Varekamp, J.C., Goss, A.R., Kamenov, G.D., Paz Moreno, F.A., and Hilton, D.H., The Pinacate Volcanic Field, Sonora, Mexico: Evidence for a mixed HIMU mantle domain near the Gulf of California.

Cauley, C.N. and Varekamp, J.C., Paulina Lake, Newberry Volcano, OR USA: A Modern Version of Archean Iron Formation Environments?

Milligan, G, Poulos, H. M., Ku, T.C.W., Varekamp, J.C., and Chernoff, B. Carbon storage and metal pollution in a tidal freshwater wetland, Connecticut, USA

Attendance at scientific meetings/Abstracts:

I was a co-author on 7 abstracts, 5 of which included Wesleyan students (\*Wesleyan student). I presented posters or talks at two professional meetings, the IAVCEI CVL 11th Workshop, São Miguel, Azores, Portugal; 28 August– 5 September, 2023, and the Geological Society of America Annual Meeting, 15-18 October, Pittsburgh, PA.

Varekamp, J.C., 2023. Transfer of magmatic CO2 through volcanic lakes into the atmosphere – it’s a long road! IAVCEI CVL 11th Workshop, São Miguel, Azores, Portugal; 28 August to 5 September, 2023. Invited keynote speech.

Cauley, C.N., and Varekamp, J.C., 2023. Paulina Lake, Newberry Volcano, OR, USA: a modern analog of a BIF deposit? IAVCEI CVL 11thWorkshop, São Miguel, Azores, Portugal; 28 August to 5 September 2023.

Thomas, E., Brumberger\*, H., Koetter\*, S., Cauley\*, C., and Varekamp, J. C., 2023. Environmental Evolu?on of Paulina Lake, Newberry Volcano (OR, USA). IAVCEI CVL 11th Workshop, São Miguel, Azores, Portugal; 28 August to 5 September, 2023. Oral presentation.

Thomas, E., Brumberger\*, H., Koetter\*, S., Cauley\*, C., and Varekamp, J. C., 2023. The resilience of life in volcanic lakes: ostracods in Paulina Lake (Newberry Volcano, OR, USA). IAVCEI CVL 11th Workshop, São Miguel, Azores, Portugal; 28th August to 5th September, 2023; Poster 22.

Thomas, E., and Varekamp, J. C., 2023. Environmental History of Long Island Sound: the foram point of view. GSA Annual Meeting, 15-18 October, Pittsburgh, PA; Abstract 194-5; doi: 10.1130/abs/2023AM-393093. Oral Presentation.

Varekamp, J. C. and Cauley\*, C. N., 2023. Paulina Lake, Newberry Volcano, OR, as a modern analog for Precambrian Iron Formations. GSA Annual Mee2ng, 15-18 October, Pittsburgh, PA; Abstract #17-9. Oral presentation.

Varekamp, J. C., Cauley\*, C., Kuehn, S., Koetter\*, S., Brumberger\*, H., and Thomas, E., 2023, Stratigraphy of the Newberry Crater Lake sediments; tephra and ostracod data. GSA Annual Meeting, 15-18 October, Pittsburgh, PA; Abstract 40-8. doi: 10.1130/abs/2023AM-393766. Poster.

Presentations at local gatherings

Varekamp, J.C., 2023, The Dutch explorer Adriaen Block in the Connecticut River. Two talks during cruises on the *Onrust*, a replica of Block’s ship owned by the Connec2cut River Museum.

Varekamp, J.C., 2024, The life and times of Adriaen Block: Dutch explorer, mapmaker, and fur trader.East Haddam Historical Society, April 28, 2024.

Varekamp, J.C., 2024, The Connecticut River: Past, Present and Future. Environmental Symposium on the Connecticut River, co-organized by me, in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Connecticut River Museum in Essex, CT. Symposium was held at Beckham Hall, Wesleyan University, June 23, 2024.

Varekamp, J.C., 2024, Adriaen Block and Long Island Sound, and Growth of coastal salt marshes along the Farm River, Branford, CT. Meeting of national environmental leaders (14) and site visit of RAE (Restore America’s Estuaries), with a boat trip on Long Island Sound and walk along the Farm River—two presentations done in the field. Organized by Save the Sound, New Haven, CT.

NGO activities

Board member of the Connecticut River Museum, Essex, CT Board member of Save the Sound, New Haven, CT

Other professional activities

I nominated Dr. Susan Kay (Earth Sciences, Cornell University) for the most prestigious medal of the Geological Society of America. I recruited a former student as co-nominator (Adam Goss, former Wesleyan undergraduate and former PhD student of Sue Kay). We organized five recommendation letters from international experts in her field. She was awarded the Penrose Medal in this first round (which is unusual), and she was only the 3d woman on whom this honor was bestowed in the roughly 100 years of the selection process. The award ceremony took place in Pittsburgh, PA in October 2023.

I reviewed many manuscripts and proposals, and wrote letters of recommendation for former students.

**Ruth Weissman:**

Teaching:

On May 15, 2024, Ruth wrote, “I recently launched an online course “Introduction to Eating Disorders” on the edX platform—it’s Wesleyan’s first venture into using that platform. Here’s the course description: 

*The main****goal of this class****is to gain an academic introductory exposure to the class of mental disorders known as eating disorders, based on “big ideas” that have propelled the field forward and the latest scientific information. Eating disorders affect people from all walks of life and across the developmental lifespan. Although they are serious conditions with adverse impacts on the afflicted person’s health and wellbeing, many myths abound that impede understanding, treating, and preventing these disorders. The course will describe what constitutes an eating disorder; how eating disorders are diagnosed and treated; the barriers to seeking or receiving proper care and how to overcome them; and what approaches show greatest promise to reduce risk for developing an eating disorder.*

*This course is designed for everyone interested in learning more about eating disorders – professionally and personally. Education about eating disorders is one of several recommended elements for anyone who is interested in helping others who are experiencing an eating disorder and for those pursuing recovery from an eating disorder. However, please note, this course is designed neither as a self-help program nor should it be used to replace treatment. If you are experiencing an eating disorder or wish to help others with an eating disorder, please access the course resources.*”

Award

Deborah Erdman & Lee Freeman Leadership in Philanthropy Award, Livingston Healthcare Foundation, June 29, 2024

The announcement:

“We are thrilled to announce that Ruth Striegel Weissman has been awarded this year's Debbie Erdman-Lee Freeman Leadership in Philanthropy Award by the Livingston HealthCare Foundation. This prestigious award recognizes her exceptional service and leadership in enhancing the welfare and quality of life in Montana.”

 Publications

Fitzsimmons-Craft, E. E., Wilfley, D. E., Accurso, E. C., Balantekin, K. N., Celio Doyle, A., Eisenberg, D., Firebaugh, M. L., Flatt, R. E., Goel, N. J., Graham, A. K., Jacobi, C., Jones Bell, M., Monterubio, G. E., Newman, M. G., Sadeh-Sharvit, S., Taylor, K., & Weissman, R. S. (2024). Nurturing innovation, catalyzing change: Honoring the legacy of Dr. C. Barr Taylor in the eating disorders field. International Journal of Eating Disorders, 10.1002/eat.24145. <https://doi.org/10.1002/eat.24145>

 Weissman RS & Klump KL (2024). Introduction to a special issue on mechanisms in eating disorders. International Journal of Eating Disorders, *56*(4), 796–797.

**Krishna Winston:**

Translations:

Peter Handke: *The Second Sword: A Tale from the Merry Month of May* and *My Day in the Other Land: A Tale of Demons* (New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2024)

Peter Handke: *The Ballad of the Last Guest*, commissioned by Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2024

Community Service:

President, The Jonah Center for Earth and Art

Secretary and Member, Executive Committee, Buildings and Grounds Committee, and ad-hoc Master Plan Committee, Middlesex County Historical Society of Directors

Chair, Middletown Resource Recycling Advisory Commission

Member, Middletown Clean Energy Task Force

Middletown Sustainable Connecticut certification team (silver certification awarded, August 2023)

Wesleyan Service:

Director, Wasch Center and Co-Director, Wesleyan Wasch Center Seminars

Faculty Advisor, Community Standards Board and CSB appeals committee