

## UNDER DISCUSSION: THE NATURE OF WISDOM



WISDOM GRANT  
RECIPIENT JUDITH  
GLÜCK PRESENTS  
TO THE DEFINING  
WISDOM PROJECT  
COUNCIL AS JOHN  
CACIOPPO LOOKS  
ON. (PHOTO BY  
JASMINE KWONG)

### SOCIAL SCIENCES, BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES, AND HUMANITIES INTERSECT IN NEW PROJECT

What is wisdom? The University of Chicago Defining Wisdom Project, funded through a \$2 million John Templeton Foundation grant, supports 23 young scholars from around the world who are striving to answer this age-old question.

The Defining Wisdom initiative emerged from discussions among Barnaby Marsh, vice president for strategic initiatives at the Templeton Foundation; Howard Nusbaum, chairman of the Department of Psychology; and John Cacioppo, Tiffany and Margaret Blake Distinguished Service Professor of Psychology. It kicked off during the 2007–08 academic year, when the Defining Wisdom Project Council reviewed 631 applications from potential researchers.

Proposed studies ranged from a software-based tracking of decisions and their outcomes to an analysis of the generation and application of moral principles using a combination of behavioral testing and neuroimaging. The field was narrowed to 40 applicants, who traveled to Chicago and presented to the council this past August. Twenty were selected to receive Defining Wisdom grants that provided \$50,000 to \$100,000 in research support. Additional benefits include membership in the Defining Wisdom Research Network Web site and funding for annual research network meetings in Chicago. After receiving their grants in October, the Wisdom researchers were given two years to complete their projects.

*Dialogo* spoke with Nusbaum about the Defining Wisdom Project and—in light of the growing interest in interdisciplinary interactions among the social sciences, humanities, and biological sciences—the psychology department's increased involvement in the field of neuroscience.

#### **Please give a brief overview of the Defining Wisdom Project.**

The grant was established to fund 23 young investigators, enabling them to take a risk and step beyond what they normally do to focus solely on wisdom. There are many characteristics that define us as humans, wisdom being one, that have not been as tractable to scientific study as some other things and are more in the province of, say, the humanities. The goal of the Defining Wisdom Project is to ascertain whether it is possible to have productive conversations about wisdom across intellectual divisions—and whether those conversations will enable us to conduct new, productive scholarship that affords insight into what wisdom is.

#### **The 23 grant recipients have been selected and are in the initial phases of their research. How has that been going?**

The Defining Wisdom Project has two objectives: to support the individual investigators—that part we've done—and to form a research network. We just had our first quarterly ►►

▶ phone conference on January 23. The conversation focused on a question that John Cacioppo and I had been discussing prior to the project's establishment: how do you define wisdom? Randy McNeill, who's the son of emeritus faculty member David McNeill, brought up the subject of Achilles and how his behavior illustrates psychological processes related to the notion of wisdom. In addition, two members of the group have begun collaborating, with a single project emerging from their original projects, which were quite different from one another. During the conversation, the group discussed ways that these two researchers may work together most effectively.

This initial conversation was not about anyone's data because everyone is in the first quarter of their research.

### Is there a project funded by the initiative that SSD alumni might find particularly interesting?

It seems hard to pick one in particular, but the work of Josh Greene—who has an intellectual grounding in moral philosophy, is on the psychology faculty at Harvard, and is doing neuroimaging—brings together three of our research approaches.

There's been a movement across the social sciences to take a fresh look at what we can learn from laboratory studies that shed light on how broad cultural and sociological institutions interact with individual operators and agents. And Josh Greene captures that movement—on one hand, he's a moral philosopher with a humanities perspective; on the other hand, he's a laboratory scientist who does experiments. And the third thing he brings to the table is the neuroscience element, which is also part of the future of the social sciences. We've always had biological psychology, but neuroimaging using a variety of tools has made investigating the neuroscience of individuals far easier than it once was.

### Which leads us to our next question: as chair of psychology, can you talk about the growing significance of neuroscience at Chicago?

John Cacioppo and I codirect the Center for Cognitive and Social Neuroscience, but it actually spans seven departments and has more than 40 faculty affiliates. My colleague in the psychology department, Leslie Kay, directs the Institute for



## Report from the Dean

As I am sure you are well aware, we have already had a more eventful year than any of us would ever have wished. Owing to the current and anticipated condition of the University's finances, we have had to reduce the Social Sciences Division budget for the coming year, fiscal 2010, by more than 3 percent. Although the magnitude of the cuts, expressed as a percentage, may seem modest, the measures we will have to take to achieve them will make the work of the Division more difficult over the next few years. However, I am confident that we have set the right priorities for the tough times ahead, and with the patience and determination of our faculty, students, and staff, I believe that we will emerge from this crisis with our most important capabilities intact.

Our first objective in our budget planning is to preserve the investments in our Division that contribute most directly to academic excellence, namely support for faculty research and teaching. We will make additions to our faculty, although at a slower pace than all of us wish. We will continue to make decisions on promotions, reappointments, and retentions based on the usual purely scholarly criteria, leaving the consequences for the budget aside. And we will maintain our strong support for current graduate students. But of course, we will not be able to continue everything as normal. We will significantly reduce administrative and support costs in the Division.

We will sponsor many fewer visitors and other academic personnel. We will take in fewer doctoral students and increase enrollments in our master's programs and in the College. The consequences of these decisions will be felt by everyone in the Division: faculty, students, and staff alike. But we think and hope that we are playing the best hand out of the cards the economic situation has dealt us.

We will not spend this period, however, just marking time. Every faculty appointment, every admission, and every program commitment is an opportunity, now more than ever, and we should be asking ourselves how these can be used for maximum advantage. Our future will be defined much more by the quality of the choices we make than by the money we have to spend.

Fortunately, the SSD faculty, students, and staff have always been unmatched in their resourcefulness, integrity, and academic vision—qualities that find their equivalent in the commitment of you, our alumni, to our value as a Division and preeminent part of this premier research University. We should all feel justified in the belief that a brighter future lies not far ahead, but just ahead.

*Mark Hansen*

*John Mark Hansen, Dean*

Mind and Biology. The goal of these two organizations is to study how biology and psychology interact.

The Neuroscience Institute has emerged largely under the direction of Chicago neurobiologists Murray Sherman and Dan Margoliash. The psychology department participates in the Institute as an equal partner with the other departments in the biological sciences. The goal is to have a unified voice and to work together in a number of ways, including assisting one another with faculty searches. They've been hiring people in the Biological Sciences Division who could easily have appointments in psychology and vice versa. It used be the case that neurobiology was cellular and molecular, with very little attention paid to behavior. Now there's far more behavioral consideration. Now we're all asking the same questions. ■

## Political Thought Revisited

### NEW CENTER BRINGS LEO STRAUSS'S UNPUBLISHED WORK TO LIGHT

The political philosopher Leo Strauss taught in the Social Sciences Division for 19 years, first as a professor in the Department of Political Science and then as the Robert Maynard Hutchins Distinguished Service Professor. Recognized as one of the most important thinkers of the 20th century, Strauss is known for defending natural right against the challenges of relativism and historicism, reopening the quarrel between the ancients and the moderns in political philosophy, sharply criticizing value-free social science, stressing the centrality of the theological-political problem, and distinguishing between the exoteric and esoteric teachings of writers of the past.

In recent years, Strauss's thought has been the topic of books published in Germany, France, the Netherlands, Italy, and the United States, as well as the subject of conferences in those countries, China, Japan, Poland, and elsewhere. His ideas have influenced scholars not only in political science but also in intellectual history, classics, Jewish studies, Islamic studies, and other fields. He died in 1973, leaving behind an extensive written and audio record that had never been published. Last spring the Division received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to establish the Leo Strauss Center, which aims to preserve and to make available Strauss's body of unpublished work.

*Dialogo* sat down with Nathan Tarcov, professor in the John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought, the Department of Political Science, and the College and director of the Leo Strauss Center. We asked Tarcov about the Center's origins and plans as well as his own relationship with the University:

#### What brought you to the University of Chicago?

I was born at the Chicago Lying-In Hospital on campus in 1948. My father went to the College and hung around Hyde Park as a bartender, later working for the Air Force during World War II and then for the Anti-Defamation League. My



mother, a German refugee, attended the Hutchins-Adler seminars. When I was seven or so, we moved to New York, and I did not come back again until 1977 as a faculty member in the Department of Political Science.

#### What do you consider Leo Strauss's legacy at the University? What is most important about the fact that he taught here?

Certainly he contributed, as did many other important figures, to the emphasis on intensively reading fundamental texts in the Department of Political Science, in the Committee on Social Thought, and in the College too. Interest in his work is in some ways more diffuse now than it was when he was alive and working alongside Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus Joseph Cropsey and the late Herbert Storing, AM'51, PhD'56, who were his colleagues in political science.

And, of course, an important part of his legacy is all the physical materials he left behind—those that his daughter and heir, Jenny Strauss Clay, U-High'58, AM'63, has donated to the University and those that the Leo Strauss Center's administrative coordinator, Stephen Gregory, AB'81, AM'90, has collected from various people around the world. ▶▶

LEO STRAUSS ARRIVED AT THE UNIVERSITY IN 1949 AND TAUGHT IN THE DIVISION THROUGH DECEMBER 1967. AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH, HE WAS A SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE AT ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE-ANNAPOLIS. (COURTESY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER)



► **How did the Strauss Center come to be established?**

In September 2008 Jenny named me Strauss's literary executor, which gave me responsibility both for dealing with those who wanted to publish his work and for handling what's in the archives. Joseph Cropsey had served in that capacity since Strauss's death in 1973; he will turn 90 this summer, so it seemed necessary to him and to Jenny that she designate a successor.

**What are the Center's main aims?**

Jenny and I had been talking about this for over a year before I became literary executor. In the course of those discussions, I said I would want to preserve the materials in the archive and make them more publicly available. In particular, we are planning to remaster tapes of Strauss's courses and put them on our Web site: [leostrausscenter.uchicago.edu](http://leostrausscenter.uchicago.edu). Almost all of his courses here, starting in the mid-1950s, were taped and transcribed, though many of the tapes were reused and thereby cannibalized.

Official notification just arrived for an NEH grant that provides \$350,000 over two years for the remastering project. Secondly, I want to use the remastered tapes to reedit the old transcripts, which have many omissions and errors. We've applied for a three-year NEH grant, which, if it comes through, will support editing the transcripts and putting them too on our Web site.

**How does the Center handle research requests?**

Previously, the Strauss Collection at the Library was restricted. The first thing I did was to meet with Alice Schreyer and Dan Meyer, AM'75, PhD'94, the heads of Special Collections, and make it no longer restricted (apart from letters of recommendation.) They told me that in the past, when they had referred people to Joseph Cropsey, he never said no, so the whole restricted thing was somewhat mythical, but I thought it was important to get rid of the aura of it being some sort of secret.

A few months were taken to make sure that all letters to members of Strauss's immediate family were returned to Jenny, and now any scholar can go in and see the materials. It was very interesting during the few months when you needed my permission—I got to meet and talk with the people who wanted to use it, young scholars from Germany, France, Israel, as well as the United States.

**Do scholars consult particular resources more than others?**

I'm not completely sure which are most consulted, but certainly people have been interested in his correspondence. Strauss tended, in good refugee style, to write on scraps of paper, library slips, anything that was available. There are files that contain all these disintegrating scraps in tiny handwriting. There are also entire handwritten manuscripts of published books in the archives; *Thoughts on Machiavelli* is there. These sorts of documents, which are handwritten on delicate paper, need to be scanned if they're going to be preserved. This is very important work that will lie ahead for us if—when—we get the funds for it. ■



## Have Grant—Will Travel

### FELLOWSHIPS HELP DOCTORAL STUDENTS GET CLOSE TO THEIR SUBJECTS

Conducting fieldwork on another continent, interviewing sources who live miles away, poring over materials in a foreign library or archive—for graduate students in the social sciences, dissertation research often requires far-flung scholarship. To help students meet the cost of travel, the Division invites them to apply for research support like that available from the Agnes and Nathan Janco Travel Grants and John Hope Franklin Endowment awards.

A recent Janco Travel Scholar, Michelle Lelièvre became a doctoral student in the Department of Anthropology after receiving a bachelor's degree from McGill University and an MPhil from the University of Cambridge. She thinks of herself as an "anthropological archaeologist," because "I'm not only focused on the past. I believe that investigating a society's past means understanding how that society operates in the present."

She has applied that principle to her dissertation research, which centers around an indigenous Mi'kmaw community in northeastern Nova Scotia. Although archaeologists tend to focus on Mi'kmaw society before the Europeans arrived, Lelièvre is interested in the post-contact period, particularly the mid-18th to the early 20th centuries. Examining how the English colonial and Canadian governments tried to manage the native community, she hopes to shed light on how Mi'kmaq, as per-

sons within the community are called, “viewed introductions and suggestions brought by the Europeans. For instance, some Mi’kmaq do settle on land and do become farmers, but they don’t necessarily abandon their traditional practices, such as hunting or gathering. In very simplistic terms, it’s a balance between traditional and modern ways of viewing the world.”

For Lelièvre, whose research is based in the small Mi’kmaq community known as the Pictou Landing First Nation, working with modern-day Mi’kmaq “has been the most valuable part of my dissertation research. I’ve been in the field for three years, and much of that time has been spent speaking with the community, getting to know them, and having them get to know me.” The Pictou Landing First Nation comprises several parcels of reserve land, including a small island in Merigomish Harbor called “Maligomish,” one English translation of which is “the merry-making place.”

In fall 2007 and spring 2008, Lelièvre conducted the first phase of her ethnographic and archaeological fieldwork, a surface survey of Maligomish. She and her field crew walked systematically across the island, recording archaeological resources of note such as campsites, fire pits, middens, and earth mounds. In September 2008 Lelièvre embarked on the second phase of work, a small-scale excavation of a shell midden—an archaeological feature whose chemistry allows for the preservation of organic artifacts that are normally destroyed in Nova Scotia’s acidic soils. She recovered more than 500 pieces of animal bone, some seeds, pieces of lithic tools, and a few pieces of pre-contact ceramic shards.

Both the surface survey and excavation were supported by an Agnes and Nathan Janco Travel Grant. Janco Travel Grants are funded by Joel Janco, who named the endowment in honor of his parents. Joel Janco’s son, Andrew Janco, AB’01, majored in history at the College and is a PhD candidate in history. Lelièvre says she is “truly grateful” for the Janco family’s support and could not have afforded the steep expense of transportation to and from Maligomish without it. “It’s encouraging to see that these sorts of funds are available through the University and, more specifically, to students in the Division of the Social Sciences. My project straddles a number of disciplines, so it’s been difficult to receive funding for it. Such grants really make a difference.”

While Lelièvre was immersed in her excavation, history doctoral student and John Hope Franklin Scholar Celeste Day Moore, AM’07, was in Paris, conducting preproposal research about “the reception of jazz, and black music generally, in France in the period following World War II to the late 1960s.”

Moore is exploring the significance of jazz to the French who performed, listened to, and critiqued it, including associations with the French resistance and other forms of opposition. At the same time, she is examining the relationship of French jazz culture to Americanization and decolonization. “Although Americanization was a threat to French identity in the postwar period, the French were gravitating toward African American music. And this was also the time when France was losing

colonies,” says Moore. “These three things happening at once are part of what intrigues me—whether an interest in African American culture served as a way to make sense of the dual threat of Americanization and increased pressure from colonized people to end French colonial practices.”

Before she left for Paris, Moore consulted with established jazz scholars, who suggested people she might contact once there. “When I arrived,” she says, “I made those first cold calls. And then people would mention friends of theirs and tell me I should contact them as well.” In addition to visiting with a collector of jazz ephemera, she attended a meeting of a jazz enthusiast club that emerged during World War II and endures today, with some early members still active. Moore also spent long stretches in the French National Library, where she examined the papers of jazz critic and musician Boris Vian and jazz scholar Charles Delaunay, listened to vintage recordings, and reviewed serials and journals not available in the United States. “Having gone to Paris,” she says, “helped get me in better position to propose a dissertation topic.”

Moore’s month-long trip was partially funded by the John Hope Franklin Endowment, established in honor of Franklin, who died this March. The longtime Chicago professor was one of the world’s preeminent historians of African American history and the history of the American South (see “In Memoriam,” pages 8–9). The Franklin Endowment supports graduate students working in Franklin’s areas of study. Awards from the endowment take the form of travel grants for conducting fieldwork or consulting primary sources in archives and in the future will include dissertation-year graduate fellowships.

Calling her receipt of an award from the John Hope Franklin Endowment “an immense honor,” Moore says that it’s particularly meaningful in light of Franklin’s recent passing and the “great legacy and high standard for scholarship” he left behind. ■

LEFT: ONE OF MICHELLE LELIÈVRE’S FIELD ASSISTANTS, MARY IRENE NICHOLAS, WALKS ALONG A JETTY ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF MALIGOMISH.

BELOW: CELESTE DAY MOORE IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH BUILDING.





1. William Ogburn pared down the original statement of Lord Kelvin, made during a lecture and reprinted in Sir William Thomson's *Popular Lectures and Addresses*. The architectural flowers represent ellipses.



2. Many alumni will remember taking courses in Room 122, where eminent scholars, past and present, have lectured.



3. Portrait relief of anthropologist Franz Boas. The other five portraits on the north portico are of Jeremy Bentham, Auguste Comte, Sir Francis Galton, Edward Gibbon, and Adam Smith.

## Attention to Detail

The Division's home was designed for social science research—right down to the symbolic ornamentation.

“If this building does not promote a better understanding of our society, we shall know that there is something wrong with the social sciences or something wrong with us; for here for the first time everything that can serve the social investigator is ready to his hand.” University President Robert Maynard Hutchins delivered these words at the 1929 dedication of the Social Science Research Building (SSRB), designed by Coolidge & Hodgdon, funded through a gift of the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial, and the first building on an American campus devoted entirely to social-science research.

The decision to build a home for the social sciences was grounded in both scholarly principles and practical considerations. An anonymous document from the President's Papers, ca. 1925–1945, reveals the trying circumstances under which Chicago social scientists toiled: “The research data of all the departments is filed away in the isolated, antiquated Social Research Laboratory building at 60th Street and Ellis Avenue, which, with drastic limits as to space, affords the only place where heads of departments may gather for conference. In the thirteen years that Harper Library has been open, the Social Science departments have lost a number of rooms which formerly were available to them.”

A 1927 faculty memorandum argued that space for collaborative scholarship would be critical to furthering the social





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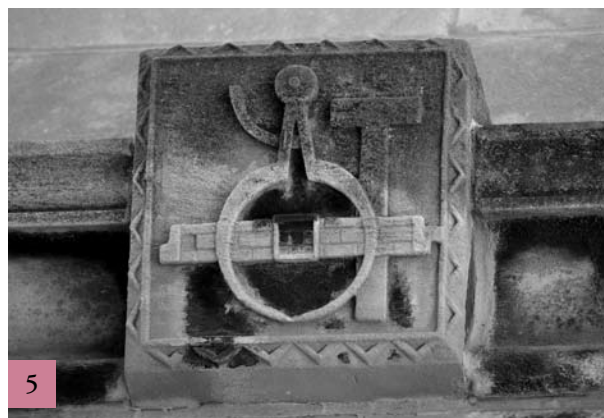
4. In *Political Science in America: Oral Histories of a Discipline*, David Easton, the Andrew MacLeish Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in Political Science, describes how Charles Merriam “hit the roof” when he read the original inscription: “Social Sciences Research.” The plural “s” in Sciences was later ground out.

## Photography by Dan Dry

sciences: “A new spirit, effective administrative organization, effective organization of the presentation of material, and more fertile methodology are the keynotes of the University’s program for its work in the social sciences...to secure the thorough co-operation which this program implies, it seems extremely important to provide a building for social science.”

That argument won the day, and two years later, the Division’s students and faculty moved into their new offices and found themselves in close proximity to scholars from other departments. “The physical setting was such that you thought of yourself as being both a political scientist and a social scientist,” said Gabriel Almond, PhB’32, PhD’38, in *Political Science in America: Oral Histories of a Discipline*. “Graduate students weren’t necessarily housed only with colleagues who were in their field. I think that this relatively intimate setting contributed to the development of the social sciences at Chicago.”

Spirited debate about ideas and disciplines extended to the building’s exterior. The SSRB’s architectural details include six portrait reliefs on the north portico, a repeating pattern of nine bosses on the molding below the parapet, and an inscription below the south bay window. A president-appointed committee on symbolism headed by sociologist William F. Ogburn was charged with selecting images and wording for the ornamentation. The choices sparked some debate; political-science chair Charles E. Merriam’s dedication speech noted that Ogburn had been “threatened with a ride for omitting Machiavelli, Aristotle, and Plato from the stone faces.”

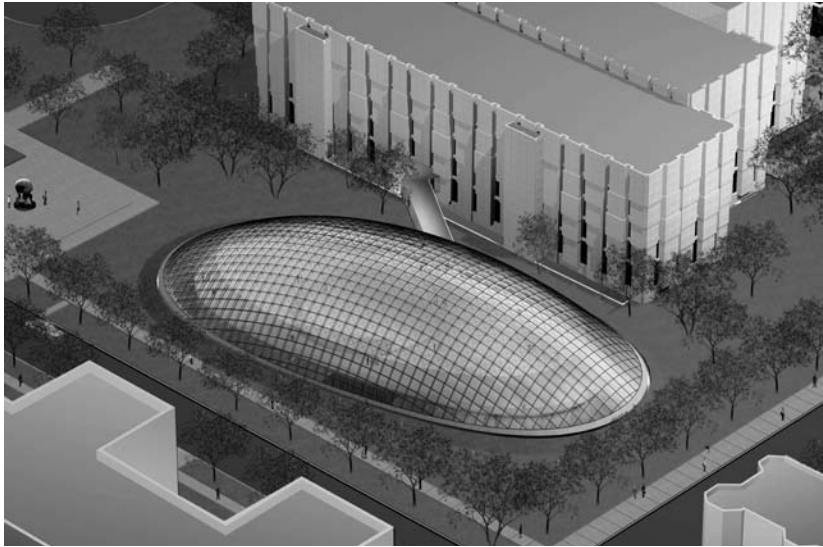


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5. Calipers, a slide rule, and a T square form one of nine images repeated below the parapet. A calculating machine, a ballot box, and books on a library shelf are interspersed with five shields representing labor, commerce and communication, government, the family and the home, and agricultural production.

Perhaps most controversial was the carving beneath the bay window: Lord Kelvin’s dictum on the importance of measurement (“When you cannot measure... Your knowledge is... meager...and...unsatisfactory...”). In 1984 the carving’s origins inspired a paper by sociologists Robert K. Merton and David L. Sills and Chicago statistics professor Stephen M. Stigler. The authors quote Chicago economist (and Stigler’s father) George Stigler, SB’42, PhD’49, who recalled colleague Jacob Viner’s reaction to the inscription:

“Viner’s story goes as follows (he told it to me): When Ogburn chose the Social Science Building inscription, Viner asked him why he had not given the full version, which ended ‘and even when we can measure a thing, our knowledge will be meager and unsatisfactory.’ After an extensive search, Ogburn returned to Viner and said that he could find no record of the additional phrase in Kelvin’s work. Viner calmly said, ‘He should have said it!’” ■



ARCHITECTURAL  
RENDERING OF THE  
MANSUETO LIBRARY.

## Andrew Abbott and the Future of the Library

Two generous donors to the University and a famous architect will share the spotlight when the Joe and Rika Mansueto Library opens in 2010, making the University of Chicago the only top research institution in the country to house its entire library collection on campus. Yet the project also owes much to the vision of Andrew Abbott, AM'75, PhD'82, the Gustavus F. and Ann M. Swift Distinguished Service Professor of Sociology and in the College.



ANDREW ABBOTT

As chair of the Provost's 2005–06 Task Force on the University Library, Abbott guided research and discussion that led to the decision to keep books at the center of campus life while thoughtfully integrating digital resources. A sociologist of culture and knowledge, Abbott has written widely on library research and its infrastructure in the past and current centuries. He reflected on these issues in a 2006 paper (see above right).

*Dialogo* asked Abbott to give an update on his thinking since 2006 and now that ground has been broken for Mansueto:

“My work since the 2006 report has only more strongly persuaded me how crucial the Mansueto Library will be to the future of the University. For library-based research, concentrated physical resources are an absolute necessity. A sign of this necessity is the extraordinarily high usage of Regenstein in recent years; more than 20 percent of the entire collection has circulated at least once in the past eight years (and that's only circulation, not in-library use.) Good graduate students are hungrier than ever for the extraordinary power that arises when a massive research collection is combined with electronic access tools searching for it. There is a whole new generation out there, wanting to learn what it is to make real knowledge with recorded materials. Mansueto will enable us to teach them what they need.” ■

### THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

“While it is a shibboleth that library usage is changing today, it is important to recall that patterns of library usage have probably been changing at something like the present rate for a very long time...The problem of constant change, and of monitoring quality and maintaining expertise in such an environment, is perhaps the greatest challenge for us as library-based scholars in the Internet age...[T]he future of serious library scholarship lies in a critically constructive and intense engagement with technology, not a running from it or a welcoming embrace.”

“It is my view that there will remain a sizable constituency, both at the University and beyond it, that values library research done in the artisanal/browsing mode. By designing Regenstein to be maximally friendly to this kind of production, we can sustain a quality of research that will not be sustainable elsewhere, and we can make Chicago a completely unique center of library research. At the same time, we have to welcome the challenge that both technological change and our students bring to this classical mode of production and to evolve from it a new kind of knowledge that retains classical ideals and standards while critically employing new techniques. It will be an adventurous time, but a very important one.”

“At the heart of my vision is the idea that the library and its research users must become self-conscious about its role in the process of making knowledge. The library's future is not simply a matter of using advanced technology to do the same old things faster and better and for more people. To envision the library's future is rather to continue the task begun here of conceptualizing what it is to make knowledge out of the recorded materials of all kinds and to put that conception into self-conscious practice.”

—Andrew Abbott

### IN MEMORIAM

#### John Hope Franklin, 1915–2009

John Hope Franklin, the John Matthews Manly Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in History, died on March 25. He was 94.

Growing up in an all-black community outside Tulsa, Oklahoma, Franklin was determined to overcome racial discrimination. In 1935 he earned a bachelor's degree from Fisk University, where he also met his wife, the late Aurelia Whittington. He pressed on to Harvard University, receiving



his doctorate in 1941 and becoming an instructor at Fisk. His early academic career also included teaching posts at St. Augustine's College and North Carolina College for Negroes (now North Carolina Central University.)

In 1947 Franklin accepted a professorship at Howard University. While at Howard, he traveled to Thurgood Marshall's law office to help prepare the brief that led to the historic *Brown v. Board of Education* decision.

Franklin joined the University of Chicago history faculty in 1964 and served as department chair from 1967 to 1970. Looking back on Franklin's contributions to the University and the Social Sciences Division, Neil Harris, the Preston and Sterling Morton Professor Emeritus in History, said, "John Hope Franklin was a giant among American historians, someone whose scholarship has forever changed our way of thinking—about African American history, about the history of the South, about the history of America. He was also a warm, generous, and compassionate friend, especially to students and colleagues."

During his time at Chicago, Franklin accompanied the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. on his 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. Upon retiring from Chicago in 1982, Franklin joined the Duke University history department and later became a professor of legal history at Duke Law School. Franklin was a prolific writer, and his first book, *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African Americans* (first published in 1947, it was originally titled *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of American Negroes*) is still widely considered the definitive account of the black experience in America.

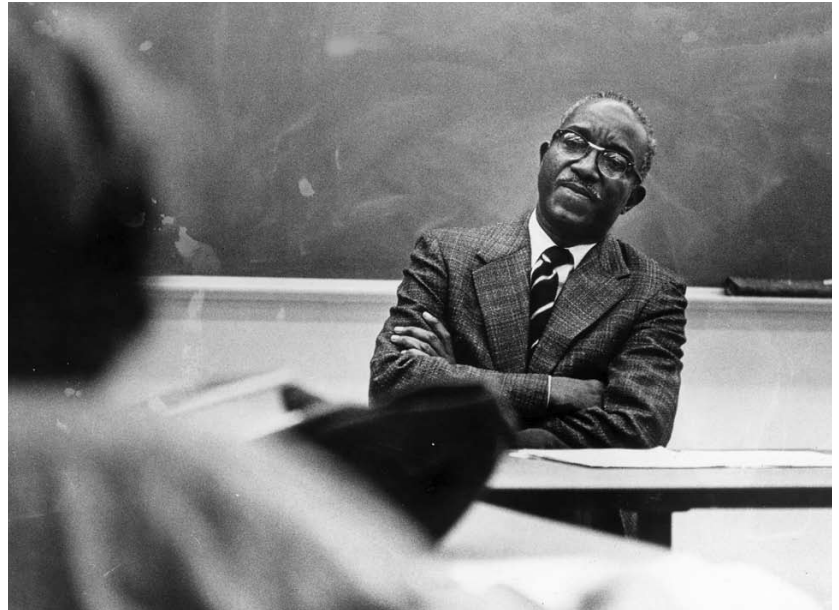
In 2003 the Social Sciences Division established the John Hope Franklin Endowment, which supports graduate students working in Franklin's areas of study (see story on pages 4–5). Elizabeth S. Todd, a doctoral student in history and a recent John Hope Franklin Scholar, said, "I hope that my research honors the life and work of Professor Franklin and meets the challenge that his work poses to us all—to achieve a higher standard of excellence and produce critical, socially engaged scholarship."

### **Richard Hellie, AB'58, AM'60, PhD'65** 1937–2009

Richard Hellie, the Thomas E. Donnelly Professor of History, died on April 24. He was 71.

Born in Waterloo, Iowa, Hellie received his undergraduate degree from Chicago as well as his AM and PhD. He taught for a year at Rutgers University before returning to his alma mater in 1966, serving as a faculty member in the Department of History through winter quarter 2009, when he continued teaching in spite of his failing health.

Hellie's numerous accolades included a Guggenheim Fellowship and the University's Quantrell Award for excellence in undergraduate teaching. In 1984 his monumental work *Slavery in Russia, 1450–1725* received the Gordon J. Laing Prize for the book published "during the preceding two years



JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN

which adds the greatest distinction to the list of the University of Chicago Press."

Hellie mentored many students who became prominent scholars and teachers of premodern Russian history; before his death, these former protégés honored him with a two-volume Festschrift.

Hellie is survived by his wife, Shujie Hellie; sons Benjamin and Michael; step daughter Sara Yu; and sister Margaret Huyck.

Gifts to the John Hope Franklin Endowment or to the Richard Hellie Memorial Fund may be directed to:

Office of the Dean  
Social Sciences Division  
1126 East 59th Street, Suite #110  
Chicago, IL 60657

## Africanists at the University of Chicago: Lloyd A. Fallers and Victor W. Turner

Following the article on some of the University's current young Africanist faculty in our Fall 2008/Winter 2009 edition, *Dialogue* received an e-mail from alumnus Allen Roberts, AM'72, PhD'80 (Anthropology), who is a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles:

"Nice to see the write-up about African studies and glad to learn of ongoing and new activities. Also happy to see the deserved recognition of Ralph Austen and the Comaroffs; BUT ►►

► (you could see this coming) it does seem a bit shortsighted that the piece fails to mention earlier Africanists, and especially Lloyd Fallers and Victor Turner (now both deceased) who were so instrumental to African studies at Chicago. They were certainly the reasons I chose Chicago for my own Africanist pursuits. There may have been others earlier than that, but certainly Fallers and Turner put the place on the map for a good stretch of time!”

In light of Roberts’s e-mail, we thought it appropriate to profile the storied careers of these two Chicago Africanists:

### Lloyd A. Fallers

While pursuing his doctorate in the Social Sciences Division, Lloyd Fallers, PhB’46, AM’49, PhD’53, helped establish the East African Institute of Social Research in Kampala, Uganda. He also carried out a study of Busoga society that resulted in his dissertation and years later a book, *Law without Precedent: Legal Ideas in Action in the Courts of Colonial Busoga*.

In 1960 Fallers returned to the Division and became a faculty member in the Department of Anthropology; in 1970 he received a joint appointment in anthropology and sociology. At Chicago, Fallers played a central role in founding the Committee for the Comparative Study of New Nations, and was active in the Committee on African Studies and in the Center for Middle Eastern Studies. He also turned his attention toward Turkish studies, conducting fieldwork in Konya and then Edremit, where he analyzed the function of a small community within broader Turkish society. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1972.

Fallers died in 1974, survived by his wife Margaret Fallers, U-High’39, AM’48. His last work—*The Social Anthropology of the Nation-State*—was published posthumously.

### Victor W. Turner

Born in Glasgow in 1920, Victor Turner attended the University of Manchester, where he studied under anthropologist Max Gluckman and received his PhD in 1955. Turner’s dissertation focused on the society and religious practices of the Ndembu, a tribe in Zambia (then Northern Rhodesia). Published as *Schism and Continuity in an African Society: A Study of Ndembu Village Life*, this monograph helped establish Turner as a pivotal figure in what was known as the Manchester School of Anthropology.

Turner moved to the United States in 1961, becoming a fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University and then teaching at Cornell University. While at Cornell, he conducted studies among the Gisu of Uganda. Arriving at the University of Chicago in 1968 as a professor in anthropology and the Committee on Social Thought, he began to shift his research toward world religions and mass societies, and he conducted a study of modern Christian pilgrimage. His final appointment was at the University of Virginia.

Turner died in 1983 and was survived by his wife and frequent research collaborator, anthropologist Edith Turner. ■

## Divisional News

### Heckman Receives Science Award

James Heckman, the Henry Schultz Distinguished Service Professor in Economics and the College, was one of three University scholars awarded the distinction of fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for 2009. Heckman and his colleagues are among 486 scholars recognized for distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications. Heckman was cited for “developing and implementing novel scientific approaches to the evaluation of public policy by enabling the better integration of theory and empirical evidence.”

### New Human Rights Program Director

Michael Geyer, the Samuel N. Harper Professor in History and the College, has been named the first faculty director of the Human Rights Program. “Under Michael’s leadership, the program will introduce new teaching and research initiatives,” said Provost Thomas F. Rosenbaum. “The challenge for human rights teaching consists in amalgamating serious academic education with engagement in human rights work.”

To facilitate its planned growth, the Human Rights Program will relocate from the Center for International Studies to the Provost’s Office and will expand its existing faculty board. Susan Gzesh, AB’72, who was appointed director of the program in 2001, becomes the executive director.

### The Importance of Gesture

Scholars have long known that movement helps retrieve information about events or physical activities associated with action. Now a study led by Susan Goldin-Meadow, the Beardsley Ruml Distinguished Service Professor in Psychology and the College, suggests that gestures not only help recover old ideas, but help create new ones as well.

Published in a recent volume of *Psychological Science* under the title “Gesturing Gives Children New Ideas About Math,” the study examines how gesturing assists students in developing new ways of understanding mathematics. It “highlights the importance of motor learning even in nonmotor tasks, and suggests that we may be able to lay the foundation for new knowledge just by telling learners how to move their hands,” wrote Goldin-Meadow in the article’s conclusion.

Goldin-Meadow collaborated on the research and resulting publication with Susan Wagner Cook, AB’00, PhD’04, assistant professor of psychology at the University of Iowa, and University research assistant Zachary A. Mitchell.

### Behind Regenstein Exhibit: Two Graduate Students

“On Equal Terms”: Educating Women at the University of Chicago, a Special Collections exhibit that opened in March and runs through July 14, traces the lives of University of Chicago women, revealing how these women have helped shape the institution’s history.

When it welcomed its first students in October 1892, the University stated in its charter a commitment to “provide, im-



MARY CALVERT,  
ASTRONOMY  
ASSISTANT, 1900  
(COURTESY SPECIAL  
COLLECTIONS  
RESEARCH CENTER)

part and furnish opportunities for all departments of higher education to persons of both sexes on equal terms.” Although Chicago’s early commitment to coeducation was progressive, achieving gender equality has proved an ongoing project, one that continues to this day.

Curated by Katie Turk, AM’07, and Monica Mercado, AM’06, both doctoral students in the Department of History, the exhibition represents the culmination of a partnership between the Center for Gender Studies and the Special Collections Research Center.

During Alumni Weekend on Saturday, June 6, from 5:45–7:00 p.m., the Center for Gender Studies, the Social Sciences Division, and the Chicago Women’s Alliance will cosponsor the reception for and tours of “On Equal Terms.”

### Social Thought’s Kass Chosen for 2009 Jefferson Lecture

On May 21 in Washington, DC, Leon Kass, U-High’54, SB’58, MD’62, the Addie Clark Harding Professor in the John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought and the College and a leading expert on moral philosophy and medical ethics, delivered the 38th Jefferson Lecture in the Humanities, an annual lecture sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Kass joins a distinguished list of University of Chicago faculty members who have delivered the lecture since it was established in 1972, including John Hope Franklin (1976) and Saul Bellow (1977).

## Alumni News

**Yue-man Yeung**, PhD’72 (Geography), retired in August 2008 from the Chinese University of Hong Kong after 24 years of service. In recognition of his contributions to CUHK and the Hong Kong community, in May 2008 the university made Ye-

ung an honorary fellow. In 2005 he had been named professor emeritus of geography. For a list of Yeung’s publications, visit [www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org).

**Anita Beltran Chen**, PhD’62 (Sociology), received an award from the Centre for Education and Research on Aging and Health (CERAH) at Lakehead University on December 5, 2008. Each year CERAH honors a “Champion” who has worked to advance health and social care for our aging population. “Dr. Chen is a pioneer in the field of gerontology,” said Mary Lou Kelley, Director of CERAH. “She developed and taught the first gerontology course ever offered at Lakehead University and was instrumental in the creation of what is now the Centre for Education and Research on Aging and Health. She is an inspiration to all of us.”

**Asha Rani**, PhD’02 (Political Science), sent an update on her life after graduation. For the past six years, Rani has taught at the Centre for Political Studies, School of Social Sciences, at Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi, India. She has published several journal articles and edited volumes related to her research interests in language and nationalism, identity, culture and modernity, and the state in third-world countries. Published early this year by the Oxford University Press, her latest volume, *Language and Politics in India*, is part of the Themes in Politics series. She lives in Delhi with her husband, Prabhat Sarangi, and they have two school-age sons. She wrote that she misses Chicago’s academic life and that she strives to keep in touch with the life and letters of the University, which helped shape her formative years.

**David R. Segal**, AM’63, PhD’67 (Sociology), professor and distinguished scholar-teacher in the Department of Sociology at the University of Maryland, received the American Sociological Association’s (ASA) 2008 Award for Public Understanding of Sociology. The ASA described Segal as a most worthy award recipient, noting his influential translation of military scholarship for multiple audiences. In addition, Segal and his wife, **Mady Wechsler Segal**, AM’67, PhD’73 (Sociology), professor of sociology at the University of Maryland, were joint recipients of West Point’s 2008 Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership Distinguished Former Faculty Award.

Every ten years, the *Economist* selects eight young economists “making a big splash in their discipline and beyond.” *Dialogo* was very pleased to see a graduate of the Department of Economics, **Iván Werning**, AM’99, PhD’02, included on the latest list, published in December 2008. The *Economist* describes Werning, a macroeconomist at MIT, as “an economist’s economist; an elegant theorist, whose early contributions provided streamlined proofs that other thinkers could make use of.” The article further states that Werning is endeavoring to unite the work of British mathematician and economic theorist Frank Ramsey with that of Sir James Mirrlees, a Scottish economist who won the Nobel Prize in 1996 “for exploring how best to set taxes when people can disguise their true worth from the revenue collector. Mr. Werning asks the same question, but in the forward-looking, macroeconomic setting provided by Ramsey,” the magazine said. ■





## SSD AT ALUMNI WEEKEND 2009

### Friday, June 5

*UnCommon Core*, 1:30–5:30 p.m. Donnelley Biological Sciences Learning Center, 924 East 57th Street. Featuring social-sciences faculty, including James Redfield, U-High'50, AB'54, PhD'61; Dali Yang; and John MacAloon, AM'74, PhD'80.

### Saturday, June 6

Alumni Banner Procession, 10:00–10:30 a.m. Step-off in Bartlett Quadrangle, 57th Street and University Avenue.

### Alumni Convocation

Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, 10:30–11:30 a.m. Celebrate as Robert McCormick Adams, PhD'47, AM'52, PhD'56, and Aaron Rhodes, AM'76, PhD'80, receive awards during Alumni Convocation.

*UnCommon Core*, 1:30–5:30 p.m. Donnelley Biological Sciences Learning Center, 924 East 57th Street. Featuring social-sciences faculty, including John Cacioppo and Elisabeth Clemens, AM'85, PhD'90.

“On Equal Terms”: Educating Women at the University of Chicago Reception and Tour, 5:45–7 p.m., Bartlett Quad and Special Collections, Regenstein Library.

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If you have news to share with other social sciences alumni or comments on *Dialogo*, please contact Nina B. Herbst in the Office of the Dean, Division of the Social Sciences, at [nherbst@uchicago.edu](mailto:nherbst@uchicago.edu) or call 773/834-9067.

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