CURRENTS OF THOUGHT

a cultural symposium

November 3–4, 2006
The Graduate Liberal Studies Program

“The premise behind interdisciplinary studies is that just as no person is an island, no subject exists in isolation from all others; that a complex examination of a subject is rewarding; that several disciplines provide the milieu for that complexity; and that each discipline is enriched and made more powerful by interaction with other disciplines.” —David Madden

Consonant with the University of North Carolina Wilmington’s (UNCW’s) mission “to stimulate in its students intellectual curiosity, ethics, imagination, rational thinking, thoughtful expression and a love of learning,” the Graduate Liberal Studies (GLS) program at UNCW provides a highly integrated exploration of the liberal arts, which not only adheres to the traditional values of broad liberal arts education, but is specifically designed for highly motivated learners who wish to deepen their understanding of the social, scientific and humanistic dimensions of today’s world. Fundamental to UNCW’s GLS program is its mission to prepare its students to meet the many complex challenges facing our society, the world and regional communities, most of which do not fall within the strict confines of a single discipline or professional degree program, but rather require a broader interdisciplinary perspective.

Typically, GLS programs reflect an older, cultural tradition of scholarship, which liberally educates the whole person, providing breadth and depth, but not applying directly to a career or vocation. The popularity of such programs attests to their widespread adoption, beginning in the 1950s and continuing to the present, in colleges and universities from east to west, north to south, urban to rural settings.

UNCW Graduate School • 601 S. College Road • Wilmington, NC  28403-5955
Telephone: (910) 962-3135 or (910) 962-4117 • www.uncw.edu/mals

Accommodations for disabilities may be requested by contacting Adrian Varnam at (917) 605-0301 or Debra Jacobs at (910) 547-7725.
Opening Reception: Friday, Nov. 3, 8 p.m., Three Hounds Gallery, 29 S. Front St.
Hors d’oeuvres provided by Tango du Chat.

Session Saturday, Nov. 4, 9:30–11:30 a.m.
Location: Three Hounds Gallery, Chandler’s Wharf

“Metamorphosis: Contemporary Views of Motherhood and Feminism”
Amy Jerome
This study takes an introspective look at some of the more timely and significant analyses of what is currently taking place among women across the country. By reviewing recently published material and interviewing women from across the country, Jerome has provided a current perspective on not only motherhood but, also, womanhood: where it has been, where it is now and where it is going.

“The Journal of Frances Anne Kemble and the Stagecoach Line of Wilmington and Raleigh Rail Road—Enfield to Stantonsburg”
James Burke
This presentation focuses on the route used by the stagecoach line of the Wilmington and Raleigh Rail Road, using writings by Frances Anne Kemble, who had first-hand experience with this line. This stagecoach line of the nineteenth century is significant because the use of stagecoaches by the railroad illustrates how transportation was organized during railroad construction.

“A Sense of Time and Place”
Rebecca Jean Long
This presentation on a rural coastal Carolina heritage will use poetry from a native son who pondered the secrets of the universe, words from a mystical medical man who spoke of dreams and symbols and an unconscious that connects us all, insights from the people of this region, experiential moments, old photographs, music and folk stories both humorous and sad. Participants will leave with a greater understanding and aesthetic sense of a time and place now past...almost.
“To Vote with Your ‘Greenbacks’: Buying ‘Cause You Care”
Steve Rosing
As consumers, we cast votes every time we spend a single buck. Knowingly or not, we all fundamentally support or reject the motives of those who get our dollars. Central to these considerations is our choice of food and groceries. This presentation will focus on the extreme importance of bio-sustainability and will follow the money, addressing ecological issues and the seemingly small, yet collectively effectual votes that “we the spenders” take in its trail.

“Leaving Home”
Kris Jacobs
This will be a presentation of a creative non-fiction piece titled “Leaving Home.” It chronicles a young couple struggling over a decision to leave the city they have lived in for nearly 10 years. Its relevance to our conference stems in large part from the fact that the city in question is our own Wilmington, N.C., and while the couple does decide to leave, ultimately they come back home.

“Might Peaceful Coexistence Be Possible? Or: In Closed Minded Camps, How Can Liberal Thinking Aide the Establishment of Peaceful Coexistence?”
Eric H. Bruton Jr.
Spirituality, as supported by world scriptures, concepts from the modern world of science and ideas introduced by C.G. Jung and Joseph Campbell will be used to show that there are real commonalities between all people that might be drawn upon to establish a link to peaceful coexistence.
Session Saturday, Nov. 4, 3–5 p.m.
Location: WHQR Gallery

“Bedrock Beliefs of the 19th Century as Seen in Currier and Ives Lithographs”
Perry Campbell

After a brief lesson about popular culture myths and an explanation of why the Currier and Ives prints were chosen as the best cultural artifact to search for popular culture myths in the nineteenth century, this study goes on to seek indications of seven current popular culture myths in the Currier and Ives prints. The study identifies a myth specific to the mid-nineteenth century and discusses this myth in some detail.

“Teaching Math to Infants”
Christine Bahnweg

There are elements in math that a baby is capable of grasping. If we understand these elements, we can hopefully kick start our child’s ability to learn a proper foundation in mathematics that will eventually lead to a more complex problem solver. This paper gives a parent the ability to help their child grasp elementary techniques in mathematics that will eventually build upon a greater foundation for analytical thinking.

“Ethical Considerations of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: Truths and Consequences”
Laura Wilhelm

Alcohol use during pregnancy has long been known to cause negative effects on the newborn. It is lesser known, but true, that prenatal alcohol causes behavioral and educational deficits due to permanent structural brain damage of the individual affected. This paper will address the whole realm of prenatal alcohol effects known as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

Closing Reception & Dinner: Saturday, Nov. 4, 5:30–7:30 p.m., Tango du Chat
Final Cocktail Hour: Saturday, Nov. 4, 8 p.m., Bella Festa
Important Locations

1. Bella Festa  
   125 Princess St.

2. Level 5 at City Stage  
   21 N. Front St.

3. Tango du Chat  
   123 Princess St.

4. Three Hounds Gallery  
   29 S. Front St.

5. Three Hounds Gallery  
   Chandler’s Wharf  
   225 S. Water St.

6. WHQR Gallery  
   254 N. Front St.
Located on the third floor of the Historic Roudabush Building, The Balcony on Dock has quickly become a premium location for special events. Contact Jill White, Event Coordinator, for booking.

phone: 910.342.0273
email: mail@thebalconyondock.com    website: www.thebalconyondock.com
TUES–THURS 11:30AM–5:30PM, FRI–SAT 11:30AM–7:30PM, SUN 12:00PM–3:00PM

ALSO AT CHANDLER’S WHARF, 225 SOUTH WATER STREET, WILMINGTON, NC  28401

Rolling Nightly From 5-11pm
Late Night Menu Thurs–Sat

910.763.3172

Mon — Fri 11– 4
Brunch: Sat & Sun 9 – 4
33 S. Front St.
Downtown Wilmington
910.763.3176

29 SOUTH FRONT STREET
Wilmington, NC 28401

TELEPHONE 910 815 3330
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YoSake
Downtown Sushi Lounge
Rolling Nightly From 5-11pm
Late Night Menu Thurs–Sat
33 S. Front St. (2nd floor)
910.763.3172