

In this issue:

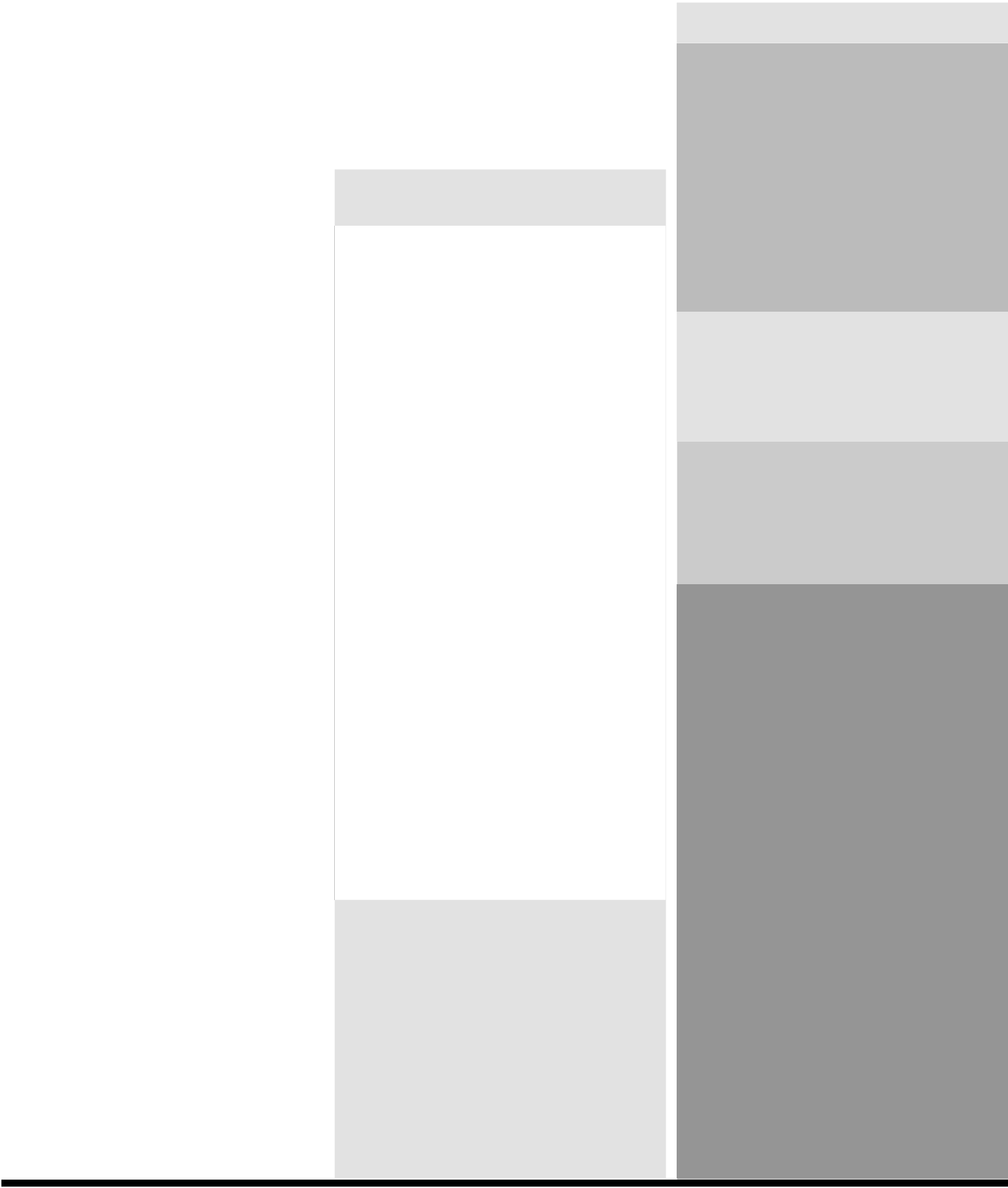
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Over the last year or so there has been an academic enterprise, although public forum anticipating much talk about a crisis in the humanities. One recent provocation of that crisis was the decision of the State University of New York at Albany to eliminate programs in French, Italian, Russian, classics, and theater. Stanley Fish, distinguished literary theorist, Dean Emeritus of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and currently Distinguished University Professor of Humanities and Law at Florida International University, in New York Times column responding to this decision, bitterly wrote, "The truth is no one in public life cares for the humanities as much as they used to." Responding to the same crisis, Cornell President David Skorton, in his fall "state of the university" address, announced plans to hire more than a hundred humanists over the next decade and called upon humanities scholars to begin aggressively making the case for support of the humanities. Martha Nussbaum, who spoke as part of November's USF Phi Beta Kappa Faculty lecture series and whose book *Not For Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities* became the occasion for news and discussion, argued that our shortsighted emphasis on education devoted to developing profitable skills, with a corresponding reduced commitment to the arts, reduces our ability to think critically and creatively, question authority, and sympathize with those who are different from us. Weakening the humanities weakens us as a people and as citizens of a democratic republic. For many of us the only surprise is that this is perceived as news. The decline in support and understanding of the humanities--in the academy and in the public sphere--is something that has been going on for decades, so why all of a sudden has it become the occasion for news and discussion? And yet, in spite of our care for the humanities as the subject of a Human-

Cont. on Page 6...

Cont. on Page 7...

Selected Faculty Awards and Achievements



Galway Kinnell Headlines National Poetry Month

Director's Statement Cont. from Pg. 1

Early Modern Panels: Friday, Feb. 18
Cosmology and Science: 10:00am - 11:30am
Alex Levine (Chair)
Roger Ariew
Doug Jesseph
Joanne Waugh
Art and Literature: 2:00pm - 3:30pm
Giovanna Benadusi (Chair)
Anne Latowsky
Laura Runge
East-West Perspectives: 4:00pm - 5:30pm
Dan Belgrad (Chair)
David Underwood
Martin Schönfeld
Wei Zhang

Global Humanities Panels: Thursday, Mar. 3
Cultural Sustainability: 1:30pm - 3:00pm
Christian Wells and Laura Runge (Chairs)
Martin Schönfeld
Cheryl Hall
Dell deChant
Laura Runge
Carl Herndl
E. Christian Wells
Rebecca K. Zarger
Noel M. Smith
Cesar Cornejo
Joanne Waugh
Separatism in the Era of Globalization:
3:15pm - 4:30pm
Hunt Hawkins (Chair)
Brent Weisman
Heide Castañeda
Heike Scharm
Global Humanities Panels: Friday, Mar. 4
New Latin American Narrative: 10:15am -
11:30am
Pablo Brescia (Chair)
Christina Rivera Garza
Carina González
Adriana Novoa
The Global Gaze and Interdisciplinary Ap-
proaches: 1:30pm - 3:00pm
Madeline Cámara (Chair)
Christine Probes
Harry Vanden
Sonia Wolmuth
Patrizia La Trecchia
Language, Rights, and Sustainability:
3:15pm - 4:30pm
Ambar Basu (Chair)
Eric J. Morgan
Camilla Vásquez
John A. Barnshaw

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Spring Highlights Cont. from Pg. 7

