

Panel 1, 2:00pm

Moderator: Glenn Shafer, Rutgers Business School

Presenters

**Jonathan Adams, FAS-N, Biological Sciences
Ph.D., quaternary geology, University of Aix-Marseille II,
France** "*Butterfly Coloration Patterns: Are Tropical Insects Really
More Colorful?*"

A native of England, Dr. Adams likes to work on broad-scale patterns and processes that link climate, soils and living organisms. For at least 150 years, most people interested in natural history have felt that tropical insects and other life forms are more colorful than those of the colder, higher latitudes. Dr. Adams and his research team decided to test this idea, assessing as best they could the elusive concept of colorfulness. Their research involved taking digital pictures of butterflies in museum collections and analyzing them using a color analysis program. A panel of volunteers also was asked to rate the colorfulness of randomly ordered images. In his presentation, Dr. Adams will reveal the findings and answer the question whether tropical insects really are more colorful than temperate ones.

**Jason Barr, FAS-N, Economics
M.F.A., creative writing, Emerson College; Ph.D., economics,
Columbia University** "*Charter School Performance in Newark*"

In 1995, the New Jersey Charter School Program Act authorized the creation of a charter school program for the state. A charter school is an independently run public school that receives its funding from the local board of education. The first charter schools in New Jersey began operations in 1997. By 2003, the state had 48 operating charter schools with more than 10,000 students. Newark, as well, was quick to embrace charter schools; as of 2004 there were 10 within the city with a total enrollment of about 2,500 students. As the number of charter schools has grown, there has been vigorous debate about their effectiveness, whether they offer a viable alternative to poorly performing public schools, and whether they increase competition and, hence, performance among public schools. In his talk, Dr. Barr will focus on Newark and the questions about what type of students are most likely to be enrolled in charter schools, how charter schools in Newark are performing relative to public schools, and whether charter schools improve their performance as they gain more experience.

**Philip Cerny, FAS-N, Political Science, Center for Global
Change and Governance
Ph.D., government, University of Manchester**

"Multi-Nodal Politics: Globalization as a Political Process"

Dr. Cerny's current research focuses on the application of Michel Foucault's idea of "governmentality" to international relations, the significance of regulation as a form of state economic intervention in 21st century domestic and international politics, the search for a conceptual framework for the understanding of international politics, and a book project on the interpretation of globalization as a political phenomenon. Dr. Cerny notes that most analyses of globalization identify a number of economic and social processes as the main independent variables driving the progression of globalization, including the spread of transnational markets, the globalization of finance, the expansion of multinational corporations and the emergence of a "global village." Under this perspective, politics is relegated to a second-order phenomenon. In his presentation, Dr. Cerny will counter that globalization is fundamentally a political process that can be traced to a range of political decisions and non-decisions and the involvement of political actors who have sought to expand economic growth beyond what is possible within domestic economies by prioritizing international competitiveness over domestic welfare. He also is an interpreter of the traditional folk music of North America and the British Isles, whose CD *Atlantic Passages* was released in 2004 in both the U.S. and United Kingdom.

**Raffaella De Rosa, FAS-N, Philosophy
Ph.D., philosophy, Rutgers University** "*Is the Mind Endowed?*"

According to the theory of innate ideas, our minds enter the world already endowed with a rich system of concepts, while empiricism denies the existence of innate ideas. Over the past 50 years, through the efforts of the 20th century disciplines of linguistics, developmental psychology and cognitive science, nativism has had the edge. But a recent resurgence in empiricism once again has prompted researchers to reconsider the status of innate concepts. Jesse Prinz's, *Furnishing the Mind* (The MIT Press, 2002) and Fiona Cowie's, *What's Within?* (Oxford University Press, 1999) prompted Dr. De Rosa to revisit the 17th century debate over nativism and, in particular, the classical anti-nativist arguments of the empiricist John Locke. Against the current enthusiasm for Lockean empiricism, Dr. De Rosa contends that Locke's arguments are flawed and cannot be exploited to settle either the old or the new debate over nativism. Even after the dialectic over nativism is clarified, she proposes, old and new nativist challenges still require an answer as to whether there can be a developed alternative account of concept acquisition without positing innate contents or domain-specific learning mechanisms.

**John Howland, FAS-N, Visual and Performing Arts
Ph.D., musicology, Stanford University "Glorified Jazz"**

Dr. Howland's research and current book project, *Glorified Jazz*, focus on an examination of the musical, ideological and aesthetic interactions that occurred between the jazz tradition, modern media, popular culture, and the culture of concert music in America during the first half of the 20th century. In his presentation, Dr. Howland will provide an overview of how these interactions manifested themselves in a variety of rich popular music arranging traditions that mixed big band and jazz idioms with string sections and other more traditional orchestral instruments. The wide breadth of this popular arranging vogue ranges from the ragtime orchestras of the teens, to the broad aesthetic legacy of the Paul Whiteman Orchestra in the music of 1920s dance bands and the jazz-style variety entertainments of vaudeville, deluxe movie palace orchestras, Broadway, radio and Hollywood, to the extended concert-style works of jazz figures like Duke Ellington and James P. Johnson, to such later commercial pop phenomena as jazz "with strings" albums (after Charlie Parker's famous model) and the mid-century jazz-pop idiom epitomized in the works of Frank Sinatra and Nelson Riddle.

**Jyl Josephson, FAS-N, Political Science, Women's Studies
Ph.D., political science, University of Maryland "Marriage and
Citizenship: Advocates of Same-Sex Marriage and the Feminist
Critique of Marriage"**

Dr. Josephson's primary research interests are in the areas of gender, sexuality and public policy. She is coeditor, with Sue Tolleson-Rinehart, of the second edition of *Gender and American Politics* (M.E. Sharpe, 2000); coeditor, with Cynthia Burack, of *Fundamental Differences: Feminists Talk Back to Social Conservatives* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2003); and the author of *Gender, Families, and State: Child Support Policy in the United States* (Rowman & Littlefield, 1996). Her presentation will focus on the dimensions of the current debate over same-sex marriage in the United States, and the insights that the feminist critique of marriage can provide for those on the many sides of this issue. Her observation is that all parties actually agree on one matter: the question of same-sex marriage raises issues that are about the nature of democratic citizenship and the meaning of the full inclusion of adult citizens in the political community within a democracy. What often are described as disagreements over "moral values," Dr. Josephson explains, actually are much deeper issues; they are disagreements about the meaning of citizenship and the nature of what it means to be a democratic community. Ultimately the feminist critique, along with the questions raised by same-sex marriage, she contends, indicates a need to rethink many aspects of the legal regulation of families and intimate life as they affect democratic citizenship in the United States.

Panel 2, 2:40pm

Moderator: Sterling Bland, Graduate School

Presenters

**Guenther Knoblich, FAS-N, Psychology
Ph.D., psychology, University of Hamburg, Germany
"How Pianists Recognize Their Own Style"**

Prior to joining the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in 2004, Dr. Knoblich served as a research scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Psychological Research in Munich, Germany. His research centers on perception and action, action observation and understanding, body perception and insight problem solving. For his presentation, Dr. Knoblich will discuss his research that shows how skilled performers, such as artists and athletes, are able to recognize the products of their own actions. As part of his research, he and his team recorded 12 pianists playing mostly unfamiliar musical excerpts, half of them on a silent keyboard. Several months later, the performances were played back for the pianists who were asked to use a five-point scale to rate whether they were the person playing each excerpt. The result was they gave their own performances significantly higher ratings than the other pianists' performances. In follow-up tests, the pianists then were presented with edited performances where differences in tempo and overall dynamic level and nuances had been removed, and their ratings did not change significantly, suggesting that the remaining information (expressive timing and articulation) was sufficient for self-recognition. Dr. Knoblich offers that the results are best explained by the hypothesis that an observer's action system is most strongly activated during perception of self-produced actions.

**Kevin Kolben, Business School, Business Environment
M.A., South Asian studies, University of Michigan; J.D.,
University of Michigan "India's Defeat of the Workers Rights
Clause: Lessons for the Future"**

Kolben is a lawyer specializing in international labor rights, human rights and international trade law. He has worked extensively in South and Southeast Asia on labor rights and labor law issues, and consults to various labor rights organizations. Prior to joining the Rutgers Business School faculty, he was a senior associate with Human Rights First in its Workers Rights Department where he worked on issues of corporate accountability and international labor regulation. His presentation will look at how opposition led by India effectively defeated efforts to include a workers rights clause in the World Trade Organization. Based on his field interviews and secondary materials, Kolben will flesh out the arguments India wielded in its campaign and how it was able to form an unusual alliance between government, unions and employers. He notes that an understanding of these arguments and the context in which they were

made are important for those who advocate linking trade privileges with workers rights enforcement. Without such an understanding, future proposals for trade linkage, he says, will likely fall on deaf ears in the developing world.

Gabriela Kütting, FAS-N, Political Science, Center for Global Change and Governance

Ph.D., international relations, University of Sussex "*The Social and Environmental Consequences of Textiles and Fashion*"

Dr. Kütting has published two books and several articles on the subject of global environmental politics and is a core teaching resource for the Mediterranean Program of the United Nations Environment Program. In her presentation, she will talk about how the globalizing of the world economy has numerous social and environmental consequences, which are the focus of her research. She notes that the subject of the international, or global, political economy has established itself as a core element in the discipline of international relations over the past 15 years but has yet to really cross-fertilize with academic research on the environment. The starting point of her research is to bring these two disciplines closer together as the main focus of where action can be taken for environmental improvement and how writings on global political economy can integrate an environmental point of view. Her work focuses on the tensions between the developed and developing world, where environmental and social problems lie in relation to global production and the consumption of textiles, global production patterns and their impact on developing countries, and how global institutions, national governments and also consumers fit into the larger picture.

**Esther Nimchinsky, CMBN
M.D., Mount Sinai School of Medicine; Ph.D., neurobiology,
Medical Scientist Training Program, City University of New
York and Mount Sinai School of Medicine** "*High-Resolution
Optical Studies of Neurovascular Coupling in the Living Brain*"

Unlike most other cell types, neurons have almost no energy stores. This makes them absolutely dependent on a ready supply of glucose and oxygen from the blood. Since neuronal activity varies over time, neurons must be able to signal changes in their demands. When neurons in a particular brain region are highly activated, blood flow increases correspondingly, but the mechanism of the signaling between neuron and blood vessel remains elusive. This question has assumed additional significance with the emergence of functional brain imaging techniques, such as fMRI, which are used to map brains under normal and pathological conditions. The interpretation of such techniques assumes a tight correlation between blood flow and synaptic activity. An appealing candidate for this coupling is the brain astrocyte. Astrocytes are non-neuronal brain cells with tiny extensions located near synapses and other extensions that envelop small blood vessels. They are thus well placed to communicate changes in synaptic activity to blood vessels. In her

laboratory, Dr. Nimchinsky uses two-photon laser scanning microscopy in living animals and in brain slices to tease apart this relationship and to understand the mechanisms by which neurons convey their changing needs in response to a changing and challenging environment.

**Nathan Yee, FAS-N, Earth and Environmental Sciences
Ph.D., geochemistry, University of Notre Dame**

"Biomineralization: Microbes Making Rocks"

Bacteria are ubiquitous in geologic environments. They are found in virtually all aquatic settings (lakes, rivers, the ocean), as well as in soils, sediments, and even in extreme environments such as hydrothermal vents and deep within the Earth's crust. Through enzymatic processes, bacteria also can induce the precipitation of minerals. Dr. Yee's research focuses on understanding what types of minerals microbes make and how they make them. In his talk, he will describe three biomineralization processes: 1) iron oxide mineral transformations, where in the absence of oxygen certain microorganisms can respire iron minerals resulting in a process that causes them to dissolve and transform into various different phases; 2) a species of bacteria that can oxidize manganese and induce the precipitation of Mn-oxide minerals, which are formed around the cell surfaces of organisms; 3) the microbial reduction of selenium oxyanions as one of the primary processes by which selenium is converted to mineral form.

**Judi Silvano, FAS-N, Visual and Performing Arts
B.S. in Dance and Music from Temple University** "*Songs from
the Great American Songbook*"

Judi Silvano arrived on the New York City jazz scene in the 1980s as a singer with a heart for adventure and a strong affinity for the standards. For instance, she included Ellington's "Sophisticated Lady" on her 1991 debut, *Dancing Voices* (The Orchard, 1991), and Billy Strayhorn's "A Flower is a Lovesome Thing" on her *Songs I Wrote or Wish I Did* (J&L Records, 2000). She has earned acclaim as a vocal improviser, composer, lyricist and educator, and has been voted a Top 10 Jazz Vocalist in *Down Beat Magazine's* Readers Poll three times. She has seven CDs to her credit in both the jazz and meditation idioms and has recorded with sax great Joe Lovano, pianist Kenny Werner and guitarist James Emery. She also collaborates with poets, writes dance scores, contributes articles to the *AllAboutJazz* newspaper, leads her VOICES TOGETHER group and presents multimedia shows inviting audience participation in the creative arts. She has performed at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Town Hall and concert halls around the world. She has taught voice at Rutgers-Newark since 1997. For her presentation, she will perform several songs from *Let Yourself Go* (Zoho Music, 2004), which she recorded as a birthday gift for her mother, with Kenny Wessel on guitar (from the Rutgers-Newark faculty) and Scott Lee on acoustic bass.