Director's Message for September 2015

Already mid-October! Lingering warmths, glossed by gathering chills. Here's what's doing with the CEAH.

Congratulations are due to Katie Padgett-Walsh (Philosophy and Religious Studies) and William Carter (World Languages and Cultures), first recipients of a CEAH Symposium Grant, for a very successful symposium The Ethics of Debt. The symposium gathered participants from 30 universities and from an impressive array of disciplines. All presenting and attending gained a very favorable impression of how well interdisciplinary humanities are happening at ISU. The symposium also engaged students with a screening-discussion of a documentary film presented in collaboration with the ISU Lectures Program. The symposium was cosponsored with the departments of Anthropology, History, International Studies, Philosophy and Religious Studies, WLC, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. I attended the keynotes and paper presentations and I can tell you the quality of discussion was very high and the atmosphere full of enthusiasm.

Coming up very soon, Saturday October 24, is our second big event of the Fall, our Digital Humanities Symposium. This symposium is for all faculty who are interested in examples of scholarship using methods of digital humanities, discussed by four eminent scholarly practitioners. The theme is Reflecting the Past and Present: 19th-century Humanities in a Digital Age, but I should point out that this focus is meant to create continuity and synergistic energy to enrich the overall theme of "doing DH." The four scholars will join my co-host Sean Grass (English) in a special concluding panel on challenges and opportunities in digital humanities, considering how this field interacts with institutions, funding, and scholarly values. This event includes informal lunch table discussions, and there are just a few seats/lunches left. Register for these today! Take a step out of your disciplinary and methodological silo and give DH a look.

Following on last year's popular CEAH Research Summit, we are all set to do it again, January 21. It's not too early to consider participating in the fun of giving a "lightning talk" on your research or creative scholarship. These are festive and fun. The deadline to submit a proposal is December 1. See the event description, the Call for Presentations, and pick up a proposal template from the CEAH Internal Funding page. There will also be panels on topics sure to be of broad interest to arts and humanities faculty, and collegial networking at lunch. Come experience the richness of arts and humanities scholarship at ISU.

To close, here is a small challenge: find the inside joke in the graphic I put together for this message. I'm reusing it from last month as it seems no one found it.

Collegially, Chris Hopkins