

# ASSOCIATION FOR INTEGRATIVE STUDIES AIS NEWSLETTER

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William H. Newell, Editor

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*Submissions  
are welcome!*

Visit our Web site:  
[www.muohio.edu/ais/](http://www.muohio.edu/ais/)  
Username: issues  
Password: INTERDIS  
(all caps)

## **Integrative Learning Conference:** *Latest AIS collaboration with AAC&U*

The Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) has formally recognized the Association for Integrative Studies as the Academic Partner for their upcoming Network for Academic Renewal conference on "Integrative Learning: Addressing the Complexities." The conference will be held October 22-24, 2009, at the Westin Peachtree Plaza in Atlanta, Georgia. AIS President Pauline Gagnon represented AIS on the planning committee for the conference. We believe this will be an important conference for interdisciplinarians interested in connecting interdisciplinary studies with a range of innovative pedagogies that have been slowly



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transforming teaching in higher education over the last quarter century, and to those interested in the application of interdisciplinary knowledge to contemporary real-world problems. For information on registration, hotel, and the preliminary program, go to [http://www.aacu.org/meetings/integrative\\_learning/index.cfm](http://www.aacu.org/meetings/integrative_learning/index.cfm).

As the co-sponsor of the conference, AIS proposed  
*(continued on page 2)*

## **31st AIS conference promises busy schedule** *Alabama music revue, Moundville archaeological tour are highlights*

By Jim Hall, Director of New College, University of Alabama, on behalf of the organizing committee for the 31<sup>st</sup> annual conference of the Association for Integrative Studies

The organizing committee of the 31<sup>st</sup> annual AIS conference is happy to update our progress toward an exciting gathering at the Paul Bryant Conference Center on the University of Alabama campus on October 8<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup> in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Our theme this year is "Creativity and Play Across the Disciplines," and the program committee has finished up the difficult work of sorting and organizing close to 100 fine proposals for papers, roundtables, and workshops. The result is a schedule of 60 sessions including more than 130 presentations.

Online registration will be open by May 1<sup>st</sup> at the conference website, <http://aisconference.ua.edu>. You can also find there more information about special programs and workshops, and travel to and accommodations in Tuscaloosa. Our host hotel is the Hotel Capstone, which



Carmichael Hall is home to UA's New College program is conveniently adjacent to the conference site. Tuscaloosa is best reached by travel to Birmingham Shuttlesworth International Airport. Conference organizers will provide airport shuttle service for  
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Visit the Association of Integrative Studies website: <http://www.muohio.edu/ais/>

**Latest AIS/AAC&U collaboration ...**  
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four sessions to be led by members of the Board of Directors, all of which were accepted. The four sessions include:

- Pauline Gagnon and Allen Repko, leading a workshop on “Interdisciplinary Curriculum: What Does It Look Like?”
- Fran Navakas, Cheryl Jacobsen (AIS past president), and Margaret Monteverde (Associate Dean, School of Humanities, Belmont University) leading a research/project dissemination session on “The Connective Tissue of Integration: Deepening the Impact of Integrative Initiatives Beyond the Integrative Course.”
- Bill Newell, Allen Repko, and Rick Szostak leading a workshop on “Integrating Integrative Learning.”
- Tanya Augsburg and Maggie Beers (Director of Academic Technology, San Francisco State) leading a research/project dissemination session on “Evaluating AAC&U’s VALUE project Integrative Learning Rubric: Lessons Learned for Program, Curriculum, and e-Portfolio Development and Assessment.”

While the full program will not be available for another month, the preliminary program reveals that at least three other AIS members will be making prominent presentations at the conference as well:

- Veronica Boix Mansilla (Project Zero, Harvard University) will be giving the opening keynote address on “Advancing the Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities Necessary for Today’s World.”
- Carolyn Haynes (AIS past president and Director of Honors and Scholars Program and Professor of English, Miami



**‘Integrative Learning:  
Addressing  
the Complexities’**

**AAC&U Network  
for Academic Renewal  
conference  
October 22-24, 2009  
Westin Peachtree Plaza  
Atlanta, Georgia**

**Website: [http://www.aacu.org/meetings/integrative\\_learning/](http://www.aacu.org/meetings/integrative_learning/)**

- University) will be co-facilitating a pre-conference workshop on “Assessing Faculty Support for Innovative, Collaborative Teaching and Learning.”
- Peter Brown (Senior Vice Provost, Mercer University) will be offering a pre-conference workshop with five co-leaders on “Ensuring Liberally Educated Business Graduates.”

This academic partnership is the latest in a series of collaborations between AIS and AAC&U that dates back 20 years. Most recently, AIS played a prominent role in the first AAC&U-sponsored conference on integrative learning, held October 2005, in Denver, Colorado. Then president Cheryl Jacobsen represented AIS on the planning committee, several AIS members (including Rick Szostak, Bill Newell, and Cheryl Jacobsen) led a well-attended pre-conference workshop on interdisciplinary studies and offered presentations at concurrent sessions, and Carolyn Haynes gave one of the keynote addresses.

That conference, in turn, was one of the more visible outcomes of an AAC&U national task force on integrative learning. Julie Klein was a member of that task force, and one of the task force’s readings was Bill Newell’s “The Promise of Integrative Learning,” published in *About Campus* (May/June 1999).

In 1999, the chair of the AAC&U task force on general education accreditation, John Nichols, invited the Association for Integrative Studies to make recommendations to his task force on interdisciplinary general education accreditation. AIS formed its own task force, chaired by Joan Fiscella, which included Cheryl Jacobsen, Julie Klein, and Marcia Seabury. They produced the “Interdisciplinary Studies in General Education Guidelines,” which were approved in 2000 and submitted to AAC&U. That document can be found on the AIS website under AIS-sponsored publications (as it was expanded two years later to include a section on assessment).

Though not a representative of the Association for Integrative Studies, Julie Klein served as an AAC&U Senior Fellow in 1997-98. One lasting outcome was the publication in 1999 by AAC&U of her monograph, “Mapping Interdisciplinary Studies.” More prominent at the time, however, was her organization of the Academic Renewal Network “Conference on Interdisciplinary Studies: New Intellectual and Institutional Frameworks,” co-sponsored by AAC&U and AIS and held in March of 1998 in Chicago. Julie was the keynote speaker at that conference, Bill Newell gave three presentations, and other AIS presenters included Beth Casey and Deborah DeZure.

A few years earlier, Jerry Gaff (Vice President of AAC&U) approached Julie Klein and Bill Newell about contributing

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## **A unique fit: Interdisciplinary studies and a master’s level education**

By Jordan Hill, PhD Student, Virginia Tech ASPECT Program

From the spring of 2007 until the fall of 2008 I worked on a graduate assistantship at Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado, to research and compile a directory of all the master’s-level interdisciplinary programs in the United States. Due to funding and time constraints I was unable to make the directory a truly comprehensive offering, but nevertheless the end product included nearly 200 programs in 44 different states. In the fall of 2008, the Association for Integrative Studies published my *Interdisciplinary Master’s Program Directory* on its website alongside Rick Szostak’s *Doctoral Program Directory*. During my time working on the directory I kept notes on a number of interesting trends and pieces of information that I came across. While this information ended up being largely inappropriate for the directory itself, in this article I want to share some of these observations, as I believe that they may be valuable to interdisciplinarians in the AIS community.

The first observation that I have been continuing to ponder even in the aftermath of the directory is the unique fit that interdisciplinary studies (IDS) has with a master’s-level education as opposed to the undergraduate and doctoral levels. In order to explain what I mean by this statement I will focus on each of these educational levels in isolation. In my role as graduate representative for the Naropa IDS department, I was involved in many discussions of our undergraduate program over the course of three years. One question that came up repeatedly was whether or not it is genuinely possible for post-high school students without established disciplinary foundations to engage in interdisciplinary work in a truly

integrative way. The fear that underlies this question is that if the answer was “No,” then our undergraduate IDS program was doing nothing more than offering students the ability to “mix-and-match” courses without providing a framework that made the degree academically viable. It is not my intention here to take sides on this issue, but rather to highlight the fact that an undergraduate IDS program without a strong foundational course of study and an interdisciplinarily knowledgeable and committed faculty runs the risk of not sufficiently preparing the students to produce an integrated body of work.

The unique fit arises because master’s students entering an IDS program have two attributes that are conducive to the successful production of interdisciplinary work. First, master’s students have completed an undergraduate degree and have thus been trained in at least one discipline that can serve as their disciplinary foundation. Even if they choose to move in a new direction at the master’s level, the fact that they have worked within disciplinary structures in their undergraduate program prepares them to do the work necessary to integrate manifold disciplinary insights. Secondly, an intrinsic element of a student who chooses to pursue an IDS master’s degree is an inquisitive drive to address issues that seemingly lie outside of disciplinary boundaries. This is the intangible but essential quality that is the hallmark of interdisciplinary work that succeeds in being integrative in nature. This combination of a disciplinary foundation with and inquisitive drive creates a situation that is organically supportive to meaningful engagement with interdisciplinary study.

At the doctoral level, all of the attributes of the master’s level of study hold true yet there is one difference worth noting: A doctoral program is a terminal degree, whereas a master’s program has the option of being either a terminal degree or the midpoint in an academic career. A terminal master’s IDS program offers the chance to pursue a path of study that is tailored toward preparing students for their future career. On the other hand, a master’s program that is the midpoint in the academic career offers the unique opportunity to investigate interdisciplinary methodology without the academic commitment to an interdisciplinary career. IDS master’s students may choose to continue at the doctoral level with an interdisciplinary line of inquiry, or they may discover over the course of their master’s study that they are in fact drawn to a specific discipline or profession. The multiple options open to IDS master’s students who plan to pursue a doctoral degree provide a degree of flexibility that not only allows students to engage fully in their master’s work without the concern normally associated with endpoints but also gives them the versatility to be more fully prepared to decide what kind of doctoral degree to pursue. Let me add that this final point is something that I have experiential knowledge of, as this is the situation that I found myself faced with as I considered doctoral programs. In closing this observation, let me reiterate that this view of the unique fit of IDS with a master’s level education should in no way be seen as a repudiation of the many strengths of undergraduate and doctoral IDS, but as a recognition of the unique potential of master’s level interdisciplinary studies.

An observation that did make it into the  
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**A unique fit ...**

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Directory itself is the "Program Path," a two-part system of classification that grew out of data I collected while compiling the directory. The first part, the "Interdisciplinary Type," deals with whether or not the student has "Unrestricted" or "Restricted" access to all the course offerings at the university. The second part, the "Program Type," addresses whether students are open, limited, or blocked from arranging their schedule of courses throughout the duration of the program, and thus offers a commentary on the flexibility of the interdisciplinary journey the program itself offers. In the Program Type, each program is designated as either "Fixed," "Foundational," or "Floating." These two parts make up the Program Path classification, and while this system was designed for the master's directory specifically, it is my belief that this system would be applicable and revealing in the undergraduate and doctoral contexts as well. For a full description of the Program Path classification, please visit the AIS website and click Master's Program Directory/Introduction/

Format—then scroll down to "Section 2: The Program Path."

A final observation relates to the repeated queries from participants in the 2008 AIS Conference about whether I had compiled a list of the most notable master's level IDS programs in the country. Let me state from the outset that this list is a subjective list that is based upon my research of over 300 programs. There are no static criteria that I used to add a program to the list. Instead, I kept my eye out for programs that were strong across the board in their structure, support, goals, and design. The one element that most of these programs have in common is that they each seemed particularly interested in pushing the envelope of what it means to be interdisciplinary. (On a quick side note, I would like to state that the now-defunct master's program at Wayne State was unquestionably the paragon of master's level interdisciplinary study, and its disappearance is truly unfortunate.) In no particular order, the 12 most notable master's level IDS programs that I came across are:

1. Ohio State University—*MA Comparative Studies*
2. Ramapo College of New Jersey—*MA Liberal Studies*
3. Georgetown University—*MA Communication, Culture & Technology*
4. Columbia of Chicago—*MA Interdisciplinary Arts*
5. George Mason University—*MA Interdisciplinary Studies*
6. Ohio University—*MA & MS Individual Interdisciplinary Program*
7. Stanford University—*MA Liberal Studies*
8. NYU, Gallatin School of Individualized Studies—*MA Interdisciplinary Studies*
9. Buffalo State College—*MS Creative Studies*
10. University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee—*MA Liberal Studies*
11. University of Chicago—*MA Liberal Arts*
12. Dartmouth University—*MA Liberal Studies*



### **Student conference presenters may apply for travel grants**

The Association for Integrative Studies has limited travel funds available for graduate students who have been accepted to give a presentation at the 2009 AIS Conference in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

The conference, hosted by the University of Alabama, is scheduled for October 8-11, 2009.

Graduate presenters may apply for up to \$200 in travel money. An application form is available online in the "Conference" section of the AIS website, [www.muohio.edu/ais](http://www.muohio.edu/ais). Just click on "Travel Subventions" in the dropdown menu. Applicants should mail a copy of the completed form, along with evidence of current student registration, to: William H. Newell, Association for Integrative Studies, Western College Program, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 45056. The deadline for applications is June 30, 2009.

Funds will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Recipients will receive an e-mail notice informing them of the decision. Checks will be included in their registration packets at the conference. Recipients are responsible for booking and paying for their own airline or other travel tickets.

AIS also offers a reduced conference registration fee for graduate students. Grant recipients whose expenses exceed the amount of the grant are encouraged to approach their own institutions for additional support to attend the conference, based on the acceptance of their paper proposal after vetting by the conference program committee and the award of the travel grant.

Conference organizers hope to assist graduate students, as is possible, in obtaining non-hotel accommodations for the duration of the conference. Please contact conference organizers at [jchall@bama.ua.edu](mailto:jchall@bama.ua.edu) for assistance.

The 2009 conference program committee plan to respond to proposal writers in mid-May. ■■■

**31st annual AIS conference ...**

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\$25 to attendees arriving and departing during the active conference period. Tuscaloosa is also conveniently reached by Amtrak (from Atlanta and New Orleans) and is located on I-20/59 making car travel in the region quite convenient.

This year's pre-conference workshop will focus on the pedagogical opportunities provided by student and faculty work in virtual environments like Second Life. Rick Houser and Julia Hartman of the University of Alabama's Second Life Research Group will offer a hands-on workshop that will allow conference attendees to explore the Second Life environment and to discuss its unique characteristics and the distinct possibilities it provides for interdisciplinary classrooms and scholarship. The workshop will be limited to 20 attendees and will cost \$25.

We have a terrific lineup of special session speakers. Keynote speaker Timothy K. Eatman of Syracuse University, and Director of Research at the Imagining America Project, will share reflections on the work of IA's tenure team. We encourage all conference attendees to check out the report at [http://www.imagingamerica.org/TTI/TTI\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.imagingamerica.org/TTI/TTI_FINAL.pdf). The Friday luncheon speaker, Joe Trimmer, the Director of the Virginia Ball Center for Creative Inquiry at Ball State University, will speak about the center's unique approach to interdisciplinarity and creativity, and highlight the program's successes and challenges. Saturday at lunch, we are looking forward to a dynamic conversation between art historian and curator Amalia Amaki and collector (and former ambassador to Thailand) Mr. Paul R. Jones about the interdisciplinary use of his collections at the University of Delaware and the University of Alabama.

We are sad to report the death of bluesman and community activist Willie King who was to be our headline act at our Friday evening of blues and barbecue.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA**  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

**'Creativity and Play  
Across the Disciplines'**

**31<sup>st</sup> annual AIS conference  
October 8<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama**

Website: <http://aisconference.ua.edu>



In addition to his contributions to American music, he was a product of the Highlander Folk School in Tennessee that trained so many civil rights activists, and he used that training to organize tenant farmers in Alabama and Mississippi.

The Friday evening music revue will now be anchored by the advanced band of the Alabama Blues Project, a major blues education program in Alabama, and by the band Red Mountain, whose repertoire covers the rich diversity of old-time music from the South. We're looking forward to delivering to you real Southern hospitality, and to share with you the rich cavalcade of Alabama musical traditions.

Our major outing will be to the Moundville archaeological site, perhaps the greatest preserved site of Mississippian mound-building culture. The Moundville site, occupied from around A.D. 1000 until A.D. 1450, is a large settlement of Mississippian culture on the Black Warrior River in central Alabama. At the time of Moundville's heaviest residential population, the community took the form of a 300-acre village built on a bluff overlooking the river. Our visit there on Saturday afternoon will coincide with the conclusion of the Moundville Native American Festival, a major gathering place of southeastern native peoples. Best of all, the excursion will cost only \$10.

For those not inclined to make the 20-minute bus ride to Moundville,

we will provide a tour of the historic University of Alabama campus. UA—founded in 1831—is one the oldest public universities in the United States and has a rich cultural and civil rights history. The tour will conclude with a discussion of key civil rights events on the campus, and, most especially, George Wallace's famous "stand in the schoolhouse door."

As always, conference organizers hope that graduate students feel welcome at AIS, and we look forward to assisting them, as is possible. Please contact conference organizers at [jchall@bama.ua.edu](mailto:jchall@bama.ua.edu) for assistance in obtaining non-hotel accommodations for the duration of the conference. It is unclear at this point whether the budget will allow for any further subsidy of graduate student participation, but we encourage potential student participants, again, to contact organizers.

Please come to Tuscaloosa, Alabama, for fun, conversation, music, food, superb autumn weather, and to experience the terrific camaraderie of the AIS community. ■■■

### **'Breaking the Boundaries' online conference set**

"Breaking the Boundaries," an online conference to promote interdisciplinary approaches, is being organized by Wiley-Blackwell and the Compass Journals. The conference will be October 19-30, 2009.

The conference aims to break academic boundaries within and between disciplines, between theory and practice, approaches and methodologies by providing a space for multi- and cross-disciplinary review.

The online conference will feature six keynote addresses related to interdisciplinarity and seven publishing workshops.

Registration is free. For more information, visit the conference website, [www.blackwell-compass.com/home\\_conference](http://www.blackwell-compass.com/home_conference).

### Latest AIS/AAC&U collaboration ... (continued from page 2)

a chapter on interdisciplinary studies to an AAC&U update of Art Levine's 1978 *Handbook on Undergraduate Curriculum*. The result was "Advancing Interdisciplinary Studies" in the massive (745 page) *Handbook of the Undergraduate Curriculum*, edited by Jerry Gaff and James Ratcliff (1996), which first set out the Klein and Newell "emerging consensus" definition of interdisciplinary studies.

In 1992, the then Association of American Colleges contacted AIS about shifting the focus of their Asheville Institute on General Education to interdisciplinary studies. Several AIS officers worked with the AAC staff on writing a successful grant proposal to NSF/NEH/FIPSE on "Projects Integrating the Humanities and the

Sciences." AIS leaders Beth Casey, Peg Downes, Julie Klein, Bill Newell, and Slo Petrovich constituted the majority of the Institute staff in the summers of 1993 and 1994, team-teaching model interdisciplinary seminars and consulting with institutional teams. Beth Casey and Julie Klein continued to serve on the staff of the Asheville Institute for a year or two after that. Bill Newell and Peg Downes gave presentations on behalf of the Institute at the 1994 annual AAC&U conference.

As part of its three-year "Study in Depth" project on the majors in the late 1980s, AAC first approached the Society for Values in Higher Education about forming a task force on interdisciplinary majors. AAC was unaware of AIS at that time, but Connie Ramirez, who was appointed to the SVHE task

force, was an active AIS member and immediately proposed that SVHE partner with AIS. (Connie went on to become AIS President in 1995.) Reflecting the collaboration, Julie Klein was added to the task force as an AIS representative. The final report of the Task Force on Interdisciplinary Studies was published in the 1990 volume of *Issues in Integrative Studies*, along with articles by Julie Klein (resources), Bill Newell (curriculum), Beth Casey (administration), and Nelson Bingham (networking).

Today, suffice it to say, the Association of American Colleges and Universities is well aware of the Association for Integrative Studies. We look forward to continued collaboration with AAC&U.  
Bill Newell  
Executive Director  
Association for Integrative Studies

## INTERDIS subscribers may come and go, but overall numbers are up

If you are part of the INTERDIS LISTSERV, your postings to the e-mail list are reaching a growing number of subscribers.

A comparison of a recent subscriber list to a roster from December 2006 shows that the number of subscribers to INTERDIS has grown by about 12 percent overall.

However, the percentage of "new" subscribers or those returning to INTERDIS after an absence is even higher. About 30 percent of the current subscribers were not listed as subscribers in December 2006. Keep in mind that some subscribers will leave INTERDIS, particularly after a flurry of messages, but at the same time others are joining the e-mail list.

The roster also shows that these subscribers come from a wide range of institutions, large and small — at least 60 different colleges and universities in the U.S. and eight institutions in other countries. Some are AIS members; others are not.

The increase in the number of subscribers suggests that interest in interdisciplinary studies is strong and more people are joining the discussion through INTERDIS.

INTERDIS was established in the mid 1990s as an Internet discussion electronic mailing list to promote the free exchange of ideas and information about topics such as integration, synthesis, interdisciplinarity, and others of interest to interdisciplinarians.

It also serves as a means to communicate various announcements, such as the publication of books and journals related to interdisciplinarity, job postings from the AIS website, and the Call for Proposals for the annual AIS conference.

It is very easy to subscribe to INTERDIS. Just send an email to: [listserv@listserv.muohio.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.muohio.edu) (make sure the From: address matches the e-mail address you want added to INTERDIS) Leave the subject line blank or type: subscribe INTERDIS. In the

body of the message, type: subscribe INTERDIS [your full name].

To post a message, just send an e-mail in plain text to: [\\_INTERDIS@listserv.muohio.edu](mailto:_INTERDIS@listserv.muohio.edu). Please use plain text only when posting a message. Do not use html, or the result will be a garbled message. A garbled message will also result if you copy and paste from a Microsoft Office Word document.

If you should ever want to leave the INTERDIS list, just send an e-mail to [listserv@listserv.muohio.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.muohio.edu) (make sure the From address matches the e-mail address that you used when you subscribed to INTERDIS). You should leave the subject line blank or type: unsubscribe INTERDIS, and then in the body of the message type: unsubscribe INTERDIS.

Instructions for subscribing to the list, posting messages and leaving the list can also be found on the AIS website, [www.muohio.edu/ais](http://www.muohio.edu/ais). Just click on INTERDIS on the vertical bar on the left on the website's homepage.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### Call for proposals for 'Objects, Places and Habits' conference

The choice of a research subject is often intertwined with objects, places and habits. Each is culturally coded and invested with a number of underlying presuppositions that can contribute to the research questions, reflections and arguments transgressing disciplinary boundaries. How can interdisciplinary approaches provide means to encompass these various dimensions?

Consortium Projects and the Faculty of Lifelong Learning, Birkbeck College, invite proposals from research students and faculty for a multifaceted conference exploring the possibilities offered by interdisciplinary work through papers, artworks, demonstrations, and discussions. It will take place on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at Birkbeck College, London. The theme of the conference is "Objects, Places and Habits: Different Perspectives on Interdisciplinary Research."

Within academia, there is an increasing belief in the impossibility to thoroughly conduct research solely within the

confines of one discipline. The resulting interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary projects invite a redefinition of disciplines, research objects and subjects, methodologies, evaluation criteria, academic professionalism, etc.

Proposals are now being accepted for individual or collective presentations concerning interdisciplinary approaches to objects, spaces and habits. Participants may wish to highlight the ways in which their research subject has led them to study an object, space or habit from different perspectives, thus adopting a multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary methodology and/or approach. Suggested topics, arguments and perspectives include:

- Research objects, which call for a crossing of the boundaries of social sciences and humanities.
- Innovative research approaches derived from the study of an object, place or habit:

fictocriticism, practice based work, action research, etc.

- Academic concerns arising from interdisciplinary research: methodologies and theoretical perspectives, evaluation, etc.
- Professional issues arising from interdisciplinary research: publication, employment perspectives, etc.
- Historical and theoretical engagements with interdisciplinary research.

Please send proposals of around 300 words, a brief biography, and any technical requirement, as well as queries concerning the conference, to [interdisciplinary.birkbeck@gmail.com](mailto:interdisciplinary.birkbeck@gmail.com) by 5 p.m. May 29, 2009.

Participation in the conference is free and open to all research students and faculty. ■■■

### Innovative Pedagogy conference June 3-5, 2009

Integrative Learning in Practice: Innovative Pedagogy & Course Redesign IX will be held June 3-5, 2009. The conference is designed to engage faculty in a dialogue about the ways in which we teach and learn.

The conference will begin on the afternoon of June 3 with a pre-conference workshop led by Dr. Nathan Grawe from Carleton College. During the workshop, "Using Quantitative Reasoning to Achieve Integrative Learning," participants will explore ways of enhancing their students' quantitative communication skills across a variety of disciplines by reviewing student papers and developing classroom assessments that help to build quantitative reasoning skills.

Dr. L. Dee Fink will deliver the keynote address. Dee is National Project Director: Teaching & Curriculum Improvement (TCI) Project, former President of the POD (Professional & Organizational Development) Network in Higher Education (2004-2005), and author of one of the most popular teaching guides, *Creating Significant Learning Experiences* (Jossey-Bass). Dee's keynote address is, "Integrative Learning: Where Might We Be Going and How Might We Get There?"

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### INTEGRATION is theme of td-net conference

This year's Transdisciplinarity Conference organized by the td-net for Transdisciplinary Research of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences will take place in collaboration with the Institute of Geography at Berne University November 19-21, 2009. The theme is INTEGRATION.

Further information and the Call for Proposals are posted on our website: <http://www.transdisciplinarity.ch/e/Conference/international/2009/index.php>

Dr. Manuela Rossini  
Project Manager  
td-net for Transdisciplinary Research  
[www.transdisciplinarity.ch](http://www.transdisciplinarity.ch)

*Things to do this summer:*

***Register for the 31st annual AIS conference***

*(See story on page 1)*

***Share the benefits of membership  
with your colleagues***

*(Questions may be emailed to [aisorg@muohio.edu](mailto:aisorg@muohio.edu))*

***Visit the AIS website, [www.muohio.edu/ais](http://www.muohio.edu/ais)***

*(See story on Master's Program Directory on page 3)*



**Association for Integrative Studies**

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