Christopher Long
Dean, College of Arts and Letters

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2015

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Dean, College of Arts and Letters

Fall 2015

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He lives in East Lansing, Michigan.

Complete Journalism of Walt Whitman

the New Millennium

Michigan State University: The Rise of a Research University and

III of Michigan State University's

culture, and American literature. He is the author of volume

fields of sports history and culture, film history, popular

State University. His research and publications span the

and the American Studies graduate program at Michigan

questions established cultural perspectives on "the native,

indigenous strand of Chicano cultural politics. The book

array of texts that have contributed to the formation of an

published by the University of Texas Press, examines a broad

Chicano/Latino Studies and Women's Studies. Contreras'

and undergraduate courses in the Department of English,

indigeneities, and women's studies. She teaches in graduate

Latina/o literature, multi-ethnic literatures, comparative

research and teaching interests include Chicana/o and U.S.

Reflexiones

specialization. She has published in

years, including a Ph.D. program and an undergraduate

program for the past seven

Contreras has been director

MSU Department of English,

August 16, 2015.

has

Mackh's current research focuses on the importance

as on research, practice, and teaching in other knowledge

strategies, costs, and impact on students and faculty as well

2015, and will identify models, obstacles, implementation

universities. The guide is scheduled for publication in fall

practices in the integration of arts practice in U.S. research

the creation of the first comprehensive guide to best

The Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities (a2ru)

areas. Mackh's current research focuses on the importance

possible institutional support for interdisciplinary research,

research universities in order to ensure the greatest

is a partnership of 31 institutions committed to transforming

Humanities Research Project. Funded by a

Most recently, Mackh has been

Director of Arts and Cultural

Management Program effective

Bruce Mackh

Program, and to bring some of the work I've been doing back to my

and knowledge I've gained directing the Chicano/Latino Studies

I'm very happy to have this opportunity to use the experience

"I believe the humanities are important and truly central to anyone's

excited about, and continue supporting those initiatives.

for me to see what's already being done successfully, what people are

"I think knowledge production filters down to students, filters across

diversify the curriculum and make it more inclusive. From doing so,

education. So I'm looking forward to being able to re-inhabit my

"Home College," says Contreras. "Initially, I think it will be important

Program, and to bring some of the work I've been doing back to my

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project is entitled

Mestizaje/Métissage: Post-Conquest

Foundation, the project involves

grant from the Andrew W. Mellon

Research Project. Funded by a

was also director of the Mellon

on the staff of ArtsEngine at the

August 16, 2015.

Management Program effective

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Bruce Mackh has a strong interest in curriculum development, pedagogy, and faculty development, all of which inform his present work as the Mellon Research Project Director at the University of Michigan ArtsEngine. The goal of this project is to compile the first comprehensive guide to best practices in the integration of the arts into the research university, central to which is a focus on the idea of arts practice as research—perhaps one of the most crucial debates concerning the future of the arts in academia. Bruce is also an accomplished photographer, and his largest collection of images is part of the permanent collection of the Louisiana State Museum, illustrating the lasting impact of Hurricane Katrina on the city of New Orleans.

Bruce Mackh earned a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, an MFA from Tulane University, and a Ph.D. in Critical Studies and Fine Art from Texas Tech University. While at Texas Tech, he was awarded a TEACH Fellowship, and was the only Fellow from the School of Art to earn this distinction.

Bruce is a member of numerous professional organizations including the College Art Association; the Network for Sciences, Engineering, Art and Design; Arts Administrators in Higher Education; and the National Council of Arts Administrators, which recently awarded him a prestigious 2014/2015 Emerging Arts Administration Fellowship.

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Director of Digital Humanities Program

A. Sean Pue has been appointed director of the Digital Humanities program. An associate professor in the Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian, and African Languages, Pue has been deeply involved with the digital humanities program since its inception, and says he is committed to its success. Pue believes that he is particularly well placed to continue the program's development and expansion.

"I began teaching in the digital humanities program three years ago, and that opportunity has allowed me to explore and build relationships with many of MSU's DH-related faculty and staff," Pue says. As director, Pue hopes to further formalize those affiliations and expand ties to other areas, including the Social Science Data Analytics group; the Quello Center in the College of Communication, Arts and Sciences; the Institute for Cyber-Enabled Research; and the forthcoming Computational Studies program in Natural Science. He also plans to work on deepening the relationship between the DH program and other entities within the College, including both graduate and undergraduate programs and centers.

"I began teaching in the digital humanities program three years ago, and that opportunity has allowed me to explore and build relationships with many of MSU's DH-related faculty and staff." Pue adds. "I am committed to promoting inclusiveness and diversity within digital humanities both at MSU and beyond," Pue adds. "To these ends, I strongly support the movement for 'global' digital humanities, an effort that intersects naturally with my involvement in the College's Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities program, Department of Religious Studies (beginning in fall 2015), and my work in linguistics and languages."

Pue holds a B.A. in Religious Studies South and Southeast from the University of California, Berkeley (1997); an MA in Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures (2001), and a Masters of Philosophy (2002) and Ph.D. (2007) from Columbia University in New York City in Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures and Comparative Literature and Society.

Responsible Administrator of African American and African Studies

Kristie Dotson has been named responsible administrator for African American and African Studies (AAAS) for the fall semester, effective August 16, 2015.

"I look forward to serving as the responsible administrator for AAAS during fall 2015, especially given this important time of change. As the College of Arts and Letters transitions to a new dean, Dr. Christopher P. Long, and AAAS transitions to a new director, I am pleased to provide support in helping smooth the way," said Dotson.

Incoming Dean Christopher P. Long added, "I have long admired Professor Dotson's excellent scholarship on epistemic injustice. Her willingness to put her philosophical commitments in the service of improving the lives of others demonstrates the practical power of philosophy. I look forward to working with her in her role as responsible administrator of AAAS at MSU, a program whose success is central to the College's goal to cultivate humanities programs that enrich and reflect the diversity of humanity itself."

Dotson is an associate professor in the Department of Philosophy at the College of Arts and Letters. Dotson's research focuses on epistemology, feminist philosophy (particularly Black feminism and feminist epistemology), and critical philosophy of race. Dotson received her MA and Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Memphis. She also received an MA from the University of Illinois at Chicago in Literature and a B.A. in African American Studies and English Literature from Coe College.