



EMERITUS NO. 207 February 2018

An occasional newsletter for the Emeritus Faculty Association

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Emeritus Faculty Association News Feb. 2018

Next Meeting:

Our next meeting will be on held Friday, February 2, 2018 at 11 am in the Chemistry Seminar Room 412. Our guest speaker will be Erika Supria Honisch, Assistant Professor of Music History and Theory. The title of the talk will be: Sound Historiography: Song, the Virgin Mary, and the Thirty Years War.

Brief synopsis: For many Central Europeans, the Thirty Years War (1618–1648) was the end of the world. Nearly one-quarter of Germany's population died. In the neighboring Czech lands, repeated invasions, economic disruption, and famine followed fast on the heels of a brutal suppression of Protestants by the Habsburg rulers. In the closing days of the war, rapacious Swedish armies occupied Prague itself, sending barges loaded with books and sculptures to their 22-year-old Queen, Christina. Through it all, people sang to the Virgin Mary, praying to her and bargaining with her as they struggled to survive. In this talk, Professor Honisch uses Marian music written in Prague during the Thirty Years War to tell a new history of the conflict. Drawing on archival work in Prague and Vienna, she connects this music to an image of the Virgin that was repeatedly abducted from Bohemia, and wrangled back, during the war. Her

research suggests that music can be a powerful historical document, challenging traditional historiographic frames, while giving voice to the experiences of people longing for the return of harmony and concord.

Bio: Erika Supria Honisch is Assistant Professor of Music History and Theory at Stony Brook University. She holds a PhD in Music History and Theory from the University of Chicago. Her articles appear in *Journal of Musicology*, *Common Knowledge*, *Organised Sound*, and *Plainsong & Medieval Music*. Her book project, *Moving Music in the Heart of Europe, 1550–1650*, uses music to understand the attempts, and ultimately the failure, of different religious groups to co-exist peacefully in early modern Central Europe. She collaborates regularly with performing musicians (e.g. Schola Antiqua of Chicago, Newberry Consort) and with scholars across the humanities; with Joshua Teplitsky (History) and Aurélie Vialette (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), she organizes the “Cultures of Communication” interdisciplinary colloquium on the history of the book here at Stony Brook.

Our March 2nd speaker will be Peter Small.

Participate in the Faculty Emeritus Documentation Project

The 2017-2018 academic year is a milestone in Stony Brook University history, as it marks the 60th anniversary of the institution. In an effort to document and preserve the unique and varied experiences of the university’s emeritus faculty, a questionnaire has been designed to elicit the personal reflections of faculty members':

- impetuses for accepting academic positions at Stony Brook University.
- early experiences on the campus.
- views on the evolution and growth of the institution.
- contributions to departments and to the university.
- interactions with academic and administrative leadership.
- views on the institution’s role in the community (local and wider).
- assessments of the university’s mission and successes as a research university.

Your participation is vital to documenting Stony Brook University history.

Access information about the project and the questionnaire at:

<http://www.library.stonybrook.edu/special-collections-university-archives/university-archives/>

In Memoriam: Diane Fortuna

DARWIN DAY

February 9: Hopi Hoekstra

What Darwin Didn't Know

Hopi Hoekstra is an internationally renowned biologist and the Alexander Agassiz Professor of Zoology at Harvard University. She has made major strides in developing an approach that connects evolution in the wild to mechanisms at the molecular level. When Darwin articulated his theory of evolution by natural selection in 1859, he was missing a key piece: While he recognized that offspring resembled their parents, he didn't know how this information was transmitted through generations. In the years since, not only has DNA been discovered as the carrier of genetic information, but we can link genes to the traits they encode and also find evidence for evolution at a once unimaginable level: in DNA, genes and genomes. Hoekstra will describe her work studying evolution in action, linking genes to traits and ultimately to survival.

Co-sponsored by the Department of Ecology and Evolution.

Friday, February 9, 7:30 pm, Earth & Space Sciences Building, Lecture Theater 001

If you would like receive your copy of the newsletter via email instead of snail mail please send your name, address, and current email address to **Alison Gibbons** at:

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Visit our website: To visit our website, go to the University website at

<http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/emeritus/index.html>

It always contains the latest emeritus news (click on "Next Meeting"), a list of members' email addresses, a list of officers, newsletter archives and many other useful links.

